

**LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**January 8, 2019**

**Robert J. Samanie, III  
Chairman**

**Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "RJS", is located at the bottom of the page. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large loop at the end.

The following constitute minutes of the Commission Meeting  
and are not verbatim transcripts of the proceedings.

Audio files of the meetings are kept at the  
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
2000 Quail Drive  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

For more information, call (225) 763-5775

**AGENDA**  
**Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**  
**Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

**January 8, 2019 – 9:30 AM**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call**
- 4. Adoption of December 3, 2018 Commission Meeting Minutes**
- 5. Commission Special Announcements / Personal Privilege**
- 6. Enforcement Report, December 2018**
- 7. Receive Summary Report on Registration and Numbering of Houseboats and Consider Final Promulgation**
- 8. Receive and Consider a Notice of Intent on Dredge Fill Material Program**
- 9. Consider Notice of Intent for Rule Changes in Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Bird Rules and Regulations, including Cervid Carcass Importation Ban Rules and Regulations, General and Wildlife Management Area Hunting Rules and Regulations, General and WMA Turkey Hunting Regulations, Along with Resident Game Hunting Season Date Adjustments for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, and Migratory Bird Season Adjustments for 2019-2020**
- 10. Receive and Consider a Notice of Intent to Modify Oyster Leasing Policies and Procedures and Establish Procedures to Lift the Oyster Lease Moratorium**
- 11. Receive and Consider a Notice of Intent to Un-Designate Certain Water Bottoms East of the Mississippi River as Public Oyster Seed Grounds**
- 12. Receive a Report on the 2018-2019 Calcasieu Lake Oyster Season**
- 13. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman**
- 14. Set May 2019 Commission Meeting Date**
- 15. Receive Public Comments**
- 16. Adjournment**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**OF**  
**LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION**

**Tuesday, January 8, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission was **Called to Order** at 9:30 AM on January 8, 2019, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Headquarters Building in the Louisiana Room by **Chairman Samanie**.

**Commissioner Hogan** led the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

**Chairman Samanie** asked for the **Roll Call**. The following Commissioners were present:

Bobby Samanie  
Al Sunseri  
Chad Courville  
Bill Hogan  
Joe McPherson  
Jerri Smitko  
Bart Yakupzack

Secretary Jack Montoucet was also present.

Next, **Chairman Samanie** called for **Adoption of December 3, 2018 Commission Meeting Minutes**. **Commissioner Sunseri** made a motion to adopt the December 3, 2018 Commission Meeting minutes and it was seconded by **Commissioner McPherson**. The motion passed with no opposition.

For **Commission Special Announcements/Personal Privilege** for this month, **Commissioner Courville** thanked the Department for posting the Commission Meeting schedule and location on the Department's website. **Commissioner Yakupzack** thanked the Department staff for working with the Commission to move this meeting from January 3 to January 8 to help with conflicts. Secretary Montoucet added he placed an Executive Order to stop the rain for the next 14 days.

Major Edward Skena began the **Enforcement Report for December 2018** stating there were 3 boating incidents with 3 injuries and no fatalities this month. Also in December, there were 1334 written citations, 373 written warnings and 16 public assists. News releases discussed included agents citing 2 Assumption Parish subjects for hunting deer during illegal hours, no licenses, failure to comply with deer tagging and Hunter Education requirements, and possession of an untagged deer. Civil Restitution for the replacement value of the illegally taken deer was \$1,624. Then agents cited 6 people for violating Calcasieu Lake oyster regulations by using dredges and

3 of those 6 were also cited for intentional concealment of oysters. Agents patrolling Sister Lake Public Oyster Seed Reservation found 3 vessels actively dredging for oysters between 1 AM and 3 AM while the Reservation was closed for the entire 2018-2019 oyster season. The 75 sacks of oysters found on the vessels were returned to the water. The last News Release discussed was the announcement of 12 new agents recently graduating from the Academy. The new agents began work this week and Major Skena hoped they would help with the enforcement efforts.

**Commissioner McPherson** asked if the citations listed multiple times were different with the same caption and Major Skena stated he would look into this and let the Commissioner know. Then **Commissioner McPherson** asked if there have been any cases of deer being brought into Louisiana against the Chronic Wasting Disease importation regulation. Major Skena knew of only 1 case from the Region 8 office.

**Chairman Samanie** then asked Mr. Cole Garrett, General Counsel, to come forward for his item, **Receive Summary Report on Registration and Numbering of Houseboats and Consider Final Promulgation**. Mr. Garrett began stating at the October Meeting, the Department made recommendations through a Notice of Intent (NOI) to clarify what was defined as a houseboat for the purpose of registration and the process for registering that houseboat. The Department did receive public comments on this NOI, but they were not for or against this proposal. A copy of the Summary Report and the public comments sent to the Oversight Committees were included in the packets. Mr. Garrett asked the Commission if it was still their intent to promulgate a final Rule and reminded the Commission this law became effective January 1, 2019. (The Final Rule and Summary Report is included in the Appendices Section of the Minutes.)

**Commissioner McPherson** asked if the proposal noted where the numbers were to be displayed and Enforcement Col. Sammy Martin felt as long as the numbers were visible, such as on the wall or hull of the vessel that would be okay. **Commissioner McPherson** then asked if guidance can be provided to the public on how big the numbers should be and where it should be located or was it going to be like LA numbers for a motorboat. Col. Martin stated they would need to use 3-inch block letters and Mr. Garrett added the directions were given on the registration card along with a decal. Again, **Commissioner McPherson** asked that guidance be provided to the houseboat owners on placement of these numbers and Mr. Garrett mentioned that the key to this was visibility of the numbers. Mr. Garrett added that the registration card and decal must be available for inspection. **Commissioner McPherson** asked Col. Martin to implement a warning system for those houseboats in which the owners are not known. Col. Martin mentioned that his agents usually have an education time period on new laws in which warnings are given. **Commissioner Courville** also asked that guidance be provided to these owners when the decals are given to them. Then the **Commissioner** wondered if it was a fair statement to say that "if I need to register my boat, I need to register my houseboat", and Mr. Garrett felt that was accurate. Hearing no further questions, **Commissioner Courville** made a motion for final promulgation, seconded by **Commissioner Hogan** and approved with no opposition.

Mr. Kyle Balkum, Biologist Director, was asked by **Chairman Samanie** to come forward for his agenda item, **Receive and Consider a Notice of Intent on Dredge Fill Material Program**. Mr.

Balkum mentioned the Notice of Intent was discussed at the December Commission Meeting to make them consistent with statute. Discussion occurred on the use of the phrase “state-claimed water bodies”, but **Commissioner McPherson** directed staff to look at the statute and make sure there was conformity. Mr. Balkum then commented that the wording state-claimed was changed to water bottoms of this state which was in statute for the Dredge Fill Program. (A copy of Mr. Balkum’s presentation is included in the Appendices Section of the Minutes.)

Hearing no questions, **Commissioner Sunseri** made a motion to adopt the Notice of Intent as written, seconded by **Commissioner Hogan** and unanimously approved.

(The full text of the Notice of Intent is made a part of the record.)

## **NOTICE OF INTENT**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

#### **Dredging (LAC 76:XIII.101)**

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the rules relative to dredging of fill sand and fill material from the water bottoms of the State of Louisiana and royalties.

## **Title 76**

## **WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

### **Part XIII. Fill Material**

#### **Chapter 1. Royalties**

#### **§101. License to dredge; classes of license; royalties Dredging**

A. No person or firm shall dredge fill material, sand or gravel from water bottoms of this state without a license from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has adopted, via resolution of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, the following rules relative to the dredging of fill material, sand and gravel from water bottoms owned by the state of Louisiana and royalties thereon.

B. The fee for such license shall be set at \$25 for a noncommercial license and \$50 for a commercial license. The license fee is nonrefundable. No fill material shall be dredged from state owned water bottoms unless a permit for that removal is issued by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

C. There shall be five classes of license as indicated in the schedule below. A severance royalty payment, based on ~~for each~~ cubic yards of material removed from state-owned water bottoms of this state, shall be paid to the state through the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in the amounts indicated in the schedule below.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Applicability</u>	<u>Royalty Payment</u>	<u>License Fee</u>
<u>A</u>	<u>applicable to commercial dredging or initial acquisition of fill sand or fill material with the specific intent to offer such fill for resale</u>	<u>\$0.29 / cubic yard</u>	<u>\$50</u>
<u>B</u>	<u>applicable to dredging of fill sand or fill material for commercial purposes other than the specific intent to offer such fill for resale. Such commercial purposes shall include operations related to mineral activities</u>	<u>\$0.25 / cubic yard</u>	<u>\$50</u>
<u>C</u>	<u>applicable to a person dredging or contracting for dredging of fill sand or fill material for private, noncommercial purposes</u>	<u>\$0.15 / cubic yard</u>	<u>\$25</u>
<u>D</u>	<u>applicable to dredging of fill sand or fill material for an activity that has a public benefit, such as but not limited to a coastal conservation or restoration activity, navigation purpose, removal of sediment buildup, or recreational activity, except as provided in R.S. 56:2011.E.</u>	<u>\$0.05 / cubic yard</u>	<u>\$25</u>
<u>E</u>	<u>applicable to all other dredging of fill sand or fill material</u>	<u>\$0.25 / cubic yard</u>	<u>\$25</u>

<u>Fill Material and/or fill sand</u>	<u>\$0.20/cubic yard</u>
<u>Gravel, screened and washed</u>	<u>\$0.60/cubic yard</u>
<u>Gravel and sand, unscreened</u>	<u>\$0.40/cubic yard</u>
<u>Sand, screened</u>	<u>\$0.22/cubic yard</u>

1. The license shall be valid for one year beginning January first and ending December thirty-first of that same calendar year. The license may be purchased at any time during the year for the current license year and beginning November fifteenth for the immediately following license year. No person with an outstanding violation of this Chapter may purchase a license. At all times, the original license shall be available at the dredge site for inspection by a duly authorized agent of the department.

2. Upon failure to pay royalty when due, a penalty of one and one-half percent (1.5%) per month calculated upon the royalty due, shall be levied and collected by the department in addition to the royalty due. This penalty shall become due without demand for payment by the department. This penalty is in addition to any other penalties or fines as provided by law.

3. Holder of a Class A or B license that exceeds the licensed dredge volume may be levied a penalty of \$0.05 / cubic yard calculated on the volume that exceeds the licensed volume. This penalty shall become due without demand for payment by the department.

4. 4. Any interest and/or penalty owed on unpaid royalty shall be established by the department in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

D. A license shall not be issued to an applicant who is, or who contracts for the removal of fill material with someone whose fill material license has been revoked or suspended for cause within the past 12 months, or who has an outstanding, unresolved royalty debt to the department, or who has repeatedly violated other provisions of previous permits or agreements may be deemed to not be in good standing with the department. No person or firm shall dredge fill material, sand or gravel from the public water bottoms of this state without a permit from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the fee for which shall be set at \$25, nonrefundable.

E. An application, including the applicant's name and contact information, dredge site information, estimated amount of material to be removed, detailed description of the proposed activity, and state and federal permit numbers, shall be submitted to the department.

F. A performance bond to run concurrently with the period of the license shall accompany the application. In lieu, the entire royalty fee owed to the state shall be remitted with the application.

1. The performance bond shall be in the amount equal to the known volume (historical capacity) of the existing pit(s) to be filled.

2. A certified copy of such bond must be submitted to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries before commencement of any dredging operation.

G. 1. The extent of a single permitted site shall not extend across the geometric center line of the stream.

2. The extent of a single permitted site in the Mississippi River, the Atchafalaya River, the Red River, the Pearl River (not including the West Pearl), the Calcasieu River below the saltwater barrier, the Ouachita/Black River south of the confluence of Bayou Bartholomew shall not exceed 1 linear mile and shall not extend across the geometric center line of the stream.

3. The extent of a single permitted site on all other streams except designated Natural and Scenic streams shall not exceed 1 linear half mile. Fill material, sand and gravel shall not be permitted to be removed from the water bottom of any designated Natural and Scenic River unless removal of such material is specifically allowed by statute.

F. A permit shall not be issued to an applicant who is, or who contracts for the removal of fill material with someone who is not currently in good standing with the department. Those applicants whose fill material permit has been revoked or suspended for cause within the



past 12 months, or who has an outstanding, unresolved royalty debt to the department, or who has repeatedly violated other provisions of previous permits or agreements may be deemed to not be in good standing with the department.

~~G. A performance bond or irrevocable letter of credit to run concurrently with the period of the permit, and in the amount according to the schedule below, shall accompany the application. In lieu, the entire royalty fee owed to the state may be remitted with the application.~~

<b>Bond Value per Volume Dredged in 100 yd<sup>3</sup></b>					
<b>Type of Material</b>	<b>0 to 5 yd<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>5+ to 10 yd<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>10+ to 50 yd<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>50+ to 100 yd<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>100+ yd<sup>3</sup></b>
Fill Material and/or Fill Sand	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$0.20 x total cu. yds.
Sand, Screened	\$1,100	\$2,200	\$11,000	\$22,000	\$0.22 x total cu. yds.
Gravel and Sand, Unscreened	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$20,000	\$40,000	\$0.40 x total cu. yds.
Gravel, Screened and Washed	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$30,000	\$60,000	\$0.60 x total cu. yds.

~~1. A certified copy of such bond must be submitted to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries before commencement of any dredging operation.~~

~~H. Any person or firm found to be dredging without, or in violation of a validly issued permit from this department shall be subject to criminal and civil penalties pursuant to R.S. 56:2012, et seq.~~

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:2011.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 19:1341 (October 1993), amended LR

### **§103. Reporting requirement**

A. Holders of a Class A, B, D or E licenses shall notify the department, in writing, their intent to begin dredging. Notification shall include anticipated beginning and ending dates of dredging activity.

B. Holders of a Class A or B license shall file a monthly report, on forms obtained from the department.

1. The monthly report must include the total cubic yards of material dredged. The monthly report must be submitted to the department on or before the fifteenth of the following month.

2. In cases where there was no dredging during the month, a report shall be filed with the department indicating therein that no dredging occurred.

3. Failure to submit a monthly report or submitting a monthly report with false information will be cause for permit revocation or suspension.

4. Licensee will provide for each dredge project a pre- and post-dredging cross section survey of the receiving pit to be completed and certified by a Registered Professional Engineer or a Registered Professional Land Surveyor for the purpose of determining the quantity of material removed from water bottoms of this state. Upon completion of a cross section survey by a qualified engineer, licensee shall have said engineer complete an affidavit giving pertinent details of the cross section survey. The department will furnish an affidavit form for this purpose. This affidavit will be used as an attachment in conjunction with all cross section surveys. Each dredging event that occurs during the life of a license will be certified in this manner by a qualified engineer. Pre- and post-dredging photographs of the pit shall be provided with the affidavit and cross section survey.

5. No fill material shall be removed from a pit prior to a post dredging survey being conducted.

6. Dredge volumes may be calculated by other methods as accepted and approved by the department on a case-by-case basis and prior to any dredging.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:2011.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR

### **§105. Audit and inspection**

A. The department reserves the right, and the said Licensee so agrees, to permit the department's authorized representatives to examine any and all of the Licensee's books, records and memoranda of whatever nature, pertaining to or having connection whatever with the removal or sale of said permitted material.

B. Department reserves the right to have the department's authorized agents or representatives inspect the dredges, barges, boats, scows or other related equipment of any kind by which the said permitted material is removed, and to keep a check on the number of holding pits at the project stockpile site, and also to determine by whatever means it may deem necessary, the number of cubic yards of permitted material which have been removed from the hereinabove described beds or water bottoms, and to require the payment thereof. Furthermore, the department reserves the right to inspect any contracts held by the licensee that related to the licensee's pit operation.

C. Licensee will acquire all other federal, state, local, and municipal permits and permissions required for the licensed activity prior to commencement of work.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:2011.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR

**§107. Violations and penalties**

A. Any person or firm found to be dredging without, or in violation of a validly  
issued license from this department shall be subject to criminal and civil penalties pursuant to  
R.S. 56:2012, et seq.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:2011.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Notice of Intent and final Rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the Fiscal and Economic Impact statement, the filing of the Notice of Intent and final Rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

**Family Impact Statement**

In accordance with Act 1183 of 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent. This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

**Poverty Impact Statement**

The proposed rulemaking will have no impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973.

**Provider Impact Statement**

This Rule has no known impact on providers as described in HCR 170 of 2014.

**Public Comments**

Written comments should be addressed to Dave Butler, Permits Coordinator, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P. O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA, 70898-9000 or via e-mail to [dbutler@wlf.la.gov](mailto:dbutler@wlf.la.gov) prior to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 5, 2019.

Robert J. Samanie, III  
Chairman

**Chairman Samanie announced the next agenda item, Consider Notice of Intent for Rule Changes in Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Bird Rules and Regulations, including Cervid Carcass Importation Ban Rules and Regulations, General and Wildlife Management Area**

**Hunting Rules and Regulations, General and WMA Turkey Hunting Regulations, Along with Resident Game Hunting Season Date Adjustments for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, and Migratory Bird Season Adjustments for 2019-2020** would be handled by Mr. Tommy Tuma, Habitat Stewardship Branch Director. Mr. Tuma began his presentation thanking the field staff for their help with these recommendations. The changes in the Notice of Intent included: adding language to include lands east of the Mississippi River to the Cervid Carcass Importation Ban; allow hunting of nuisance animals and outlaw quadrupeds at night year round and the elimination of needing a permit from September through January; banning the use of deer urine as an attractant; allowing the take of American lotus seeds and pods; prohibiting the use of unmanned aerial vehicles; prohibiting the public operation of water control structures on WMAs; adjusting the requirements on Self-Clearing Permits on WMAs for all activities and using the Self-Clearing Permit app or Internet/Web Portal; removal of the 72-hour Self-Clearing Permit check out process for those that may be camping; changing the daily bag limit on raccoons and opossums to 2 per day and allowing for hunting during an open hunting season in progress on a WMA. **Commissioner Courville** asked if raccoons and opossums are allowed to be taken year round. Mr. Tuma stated no, only when there is an open hunting season for animals such as squirrel or dove. Then **Commissioner Courville** asked about taking feral hogs statewide year round to which Mr. Tuma stated that was allowed only on private lands, not on WMAs. Mr. Tuma continued his presentation stating airboats will be allowed on Maurepas Swamp WMA on designated trails. **Commissioner Courville** wanted to make sure that the Notice of Intent did not indicate the Commission would advocate for the use of airboats on WMAs as they opposed the legislation as it went through the Session. Mr. Tuma commented even though the Department opposed this regulation, staff felt it necessary to align regulations in Title 76 with that in Title 56. **Commissioner Sunseri** felt this language was not necessary as it was already law and was explicit. Mr. Garrett agreed that the law would supersede any contrary regulations but staff did not want to put the public in a position of having conflicting laws. Assistant Secretary Randy Myers stated, as a point of clarification, this legislation had a sunset clause of August 31, 2019, which would only cover a very short period of time. Going on with the presentation, Mr. Tuma stated additional language on no wake zones was added; adding language on the use of electric bicycles; prohibiting commercial fishing on Wonder Lake in Pointe-aux-Chenes WMA; requiring self-clearing permits for Atchafalaya Delta and Attakapas WMAs; removal of turkey season on Attakapas WMA; requiring self-clearing permits on Biloxi WMA; eliminating the turkey season on Dewey Wills WMA; allowing crawfishing on Elbow Slough WMA; self-clearing permit required on Elm Hall WMA; changing the language on when the Becoming an Outdoors Woman Lottery Hunt will be held to after the deer youth lottery hunts on Floy Ward McElroy WMA; removal of mandatory deer check on Sunday following Thanksgiving Day for Fort Polk WMA; expanding the limited access area on Joyce WMA by about 230 acres; requiring self-clearing permits on Lake Boeuf and Pass-a-Loutre WMAs; removing mandatory deer check on Sunday following Thanksgiving Day on Peason Ridge WMA; requiring self-clearing permits on Pointe-aux-Chenes WMA as well as prohibiting nighttime activities, only allowing the take of crabs to 12 drop nets per boat or vehicle and closing waterfowl hunting at 2 PM; reducing the number of days to hunt turkeys on Richard K. Yancey WMA; requiring self-clearing permits on Salvador/Timken WMA; reducing the number of days to turkey hunt on Sherburne WMA; closing Tunica Hills WMA when turkey lottery hunts are taking place and reduced the number of primitive either sex days from 17 to 5 which reduced the total number of days from 17 to 12.

Moving on to the turkey regulations, Mr. Tuma announced there would be a prohibition on the use of motorized turkey decoys; and removal of all of Pointe Coupee and West Baton Rouge Parishes and parts of Avoyelles, Iberville, St. Landry and Upper St. Martin Parishes from Turkey Area A to Turkey Area C. For the migratory bird seasons, regulations and bag limits, the waterfowl season dates for ducks, coots and mergansers were announced for the coastal zone, west zone and east zone; changed the pintail bag limit from 2 to 1; announcement of the dates for light geese and daily bag limits for the north zone and south zone; announcing the dates for the Conservation Order for light geese for the north and south zones; and announced the dates and bag limits for Canada Geese in both zones. (A copy of Mr. Tuma's presentation and the Notice of Intent are included in the Appendices Section of the Minutes.)

**Commissioner Courville** asked Mr. Tuma if adjustments could be made now to the proposed action and he was told yes. However, **Commissioner Yakupzack** asked for public comments before going any further.

Mr. Lee Monlezun, a rice producer from Lake Charles, stated his concerns on the population of specklebelly geese in the state started years ago and has been a topic of discussion with fellow landowners, rice producers, lessees, hunters, outfitters, etc. His concerns prompted his family to enroll his farm in the Specklebelly Goose Telemetry Study conducted by Mr. Paul Link (staff employee) and felt the data was scary. Mr. Monlezun added that if immediate action was not taken, based on the 4-year study by the state, reference to the specklebelly goose may have to be made in the past tense. He then asked the Commission to amend the regulations to delay and reduce hunting pressure on this goose and even maybe reduce the limits. Mr. Monlezun then stated that the study conducted on his farm began in 2015 with the trapping and tagging of 38 specklebelly geese, 11 of which had telemetry collars on them. The next year, of those geese that were tagged, less than half returned to the state and within 24 hours of the season starting, the birds were gone. Mr. Monlezun noted he was speaking his concerns with this species on behalf of a number of landowners and waterfowlers. He then concluded asking the Commission to look at the data from the 4-year telemetry study before adopting the new seasons.

**Commissioner Sunseri** asked what statistics are available to know what number of geese are taken within the different zones. Mr. Larry Reynolds, Waterfowl Program Manager, stated he has annual harvest data on a state level, not on zone levels without doing additional analysis. **Commissioner Sunseri** felt it would be good to see that data to see if there is a trend of geese going to different parts of the country. Mr. Reynolds commented there is a coordinated mid-winter survey conducted in January in most of the states and he has presented data that shows on average, the number of white-fronted geese in Louisiana has remained fairly constant. He added that for 2 of the last 3 years, the count has been the highest on record. What was alarming a lot of hunters, according to Mr. Reynolds, was the proportion of white-fronted geese in the Mississippi Flyway that were coming to Louisiana was declining but again he stated the numbers have remained the same. Mr. Reynolds emphasized this was one survey in January and was the only statewide information available for this species. The numbers of white-fronted geese in the Flyway are doing well, with a high population which resulted in liberalizing the regulations 3 years ago. Biologically, Mr. Reynolds felt there was no concern. The study was designed to look at white-fronted geese in Louisiana, what habitats were being used and the trends in those

habitats to see if the reason a smaller number of white-fronted geese are wintering further north is due to habitat changes in Louisiana. Again, Mr. Reynolds noted the biological information was sound for the season dates. **Commissioner Smitko** asked what does the data from the study show so far. **Commissioner McPherson** asked Mr. Reynolds what he meant by the comment the major concern was being addressed and he was told it was the habitats white-fronted geese preferred to use in this state were declining or being converted to something else.

**Commissioner McPherson** then asked what habitat changes and Mr. Reynolds felt it was reduction in rice agriculture, changes in pasture, conversion of sugar cane, etc. that was being evaluated. Mr. Paul Link commented they were still trapping birds for the study and the analysis has not been done. He added he was not ready to call for alarm from this data but his concerns were not addressed by this study nor would the study get at the concern for overharvest. Mr. Link did have reservation with the early and late extensions on these birds based on old literature but this study did not address that concern. **Commissioner Yakupzack** asked Mr. Link if he was comfortable with addressing habitat issues and he was told not really. Mr. Link added there were issues with disturbance for these birds such as low flying aircraft over state and federal refuges. He felt providing high quality habitat in close proximity to high quality foraging habitats would be beneficial for the birds. Mr. Link stated they would probably be deploying more transmitters over the next 2 years and hopefully gain more data for years to come.

Mr. Joe Macaluso, Baton Rouge, stated he has heard from people in Area 6 wanting the Department to reconsider ending the archery season at the end of January instead of going to mid-February. The reason for the request was due to a decline in participation which meant the deer were not moving.

There being no more public comments, **Commissioner Courville** stated that the primitive weapon season in deer areas 3, 7, 8 and 10 were "stuck in" the gun season and felt they were problematic. He then made a motion to take the primitive firearms weapon season for deer areas 3, 7, 8 and 10 from the middle of the gun season and convert those dates to gun season and consider adding a primitive weapon season at the end of the gun season as long as there is no concern for overharvesting. Mr. Tuma stated they could make the adjustment and the primitive firearm season may increase by 2 days with 2 less modern firearm days but the total number of days would remain the same. Based on the calendar Mr. Tuma noted under Deer Area 3, the primitive firearm season would be part of the still hunt only season and would run from October 19 – December 6, the firearms season would be December 7 – January 5 and the primitive firearms season would be January 6 – January 12 and this would cover all of the deer areas talked about. **Commissioner Smitko** seconded the motion and hearing no further discussion, the motion passed with no opposition.

Then **Commissioner Courville** asked that the coastal zone dates for the duck season be amended to have the youth hunt on November 2-November 3, open on November 9 and close on December 8 and then reopen December 21 and close January 19. **Commissioner Smitko** seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Commissioner Yakupzack** asked General Counsel Cole Garrett to confirm that Commissioners can make amendments now to the proposal with a motion and second and the amendment would be available for comment but would not be adopted until April when the amendments were voted

up or down along with the passage of the Notice of Intent. General Counsel Garrett asked if the Commission's intent was to apply these amendments to the Notice of Intent and have it published in the January 2019 State Register. If it was the Commission's intent, the amendments would not be potential amendments to be adopted in globo, but would be part of the Notice of Intent. General Counsel Garrett mentioned there would be several opportunities for the public and Commission to make additional amendments which would then be adopted in globo.

**Commissioner Yakupzack** asked if these amendments could still be voted down in April and General Counsel Garrett stated the Notice of Intent can be changed throughout the Potpourri process. **Commissioner Yakupzack** talked about former Commissioner Pat Manuel and how he made amendments to gather the public's comments during the Commission Meetings. The **Commissioner** made a motion to amend the white-fronted goose season to run concurrent with the waterfowl season for 60 days in the various zones with a bag limit of 2 specklebellies. The reason for the amendment was due to the comment heard earlier, a Commission Meeting discussion held 3 years earlier and to hear what the goose hunters of this state have to say about it. **Commissioner Courville** asked Mr. Reynolds to explain the north and south zones and how it relates to the goose season and was there an option to have the goose season run concurrent with the duck season which has 3 zones. Mr. Reynolds stated, back when the white-fronted goose season expanded to 88 days there was concern that if the population declined, he wanted the option to set the goose season earlier in the northern part of the east zone than in the southern part of the east zone. This change caused problems with the Conservation Order as that season can only be open when no other waterfowl seasons are open and if there is a duck zone open within the goose zone, the Conservation Order cannot open. Mr. Reynolds felt to run the goose season concurrent with the duck season would not be possible with the current goose zones. He did note to **Commissioner Yakupzack** that goose zones can be changed each year and this amendment may be a viable consideration for the 2020 season. **Commissioner Courville** asked Mr. Reynolds to explain where the north-south dividing line was and he was told it was Highway 12 over to Highway 190, then across the state. **Commissioner Yakupzack** felt it was possible to run a 60 day white-fronted goose season in the north and south zones to which Mr. Reynolds commented the only concern with the proposal was running concurrent with the duck season. **Commissioner Yakupzack** wondered if the north-south zone could be changed now and Mr. Reynolds stated no, it had to be changed in August 2018. **Commissioner Yakupzack** noted his intent was to have a 60-day season and asked Mr. Reynolds to look at the north-south zones to see when it could run but not any earlier than duck season and when it would end. At this point, **Commissioner Yakupzack** withdrew his motion.

**Commissioner Yakupzack** then mentioned he has heard comments from the public wondering why the limit on the September blue-winged teal season was raised to 6 and heard the reasons from Mr. Reynolds which was based on data the Flyway used in making this change. The **Commissioner** then made a motion to reduce the September teal season bag limit from 6 to 4 so he could receive the public's remarks on this issue. **Commissioner Smitko** seconded the motion. The **Chairman** asked for public comments and none were heard. **Chairman Samanie** asked for the Commission's desire but **Commissioner Yakupzack** did not think a vote was needed. General Counsel Garrett stated any amendment made during this meeting would become part of the original Notice of Intent as published. **Commissioner Yakupzack** decided this amendment should be part of the Notice of Intent and could be removed based on public comment. **Commissioner Courville** asked, for clarification purposes, if this amendment was

voted in the Notice of Intent today and no further action was taken, that would be the regulation for the 2019-2020 season and General Counsel Garrett stated that was correct. The motion passed with opposition from **Commissioner Courville**.

**Commissioner Yakupzack** asked Mr. Tuma if the Self-Clearing app allows a user to indicate whether he is or is not using a limited access area and Mr. Tuma answered no. When he was told no, the **Commissioner** asked if it could be added to which Mr. Tuma stated he has the ability to make changes to the app since he was the administrator but was not sure if this was one of those possible changes. **Commissioner Yakupzack** asked Mr. Tuma to pursue his request in order to learn whether changes the Commission makes to improve the quality of habitat and opportunities on the WMAs was working. He then asked the public to consider whether they want more limited access areas on the coastal WMAs or any WMA and noted a substantial change was made last season and has heard nothing but good comments from hunters on the improved opportunities on the limited access areas on Wax and Atchafalaya Delta WMAs. **Commissioner Yakupzack** further stated he would like to hear comments from north Louisiana people on whether they would like to see a selective opportunity on the south Bosco Farm Tract to make that tract selective to youth and senior hunts. Mr. Tuma commented that the self-clearing permit app does provide a larger data base so surveys can be sent out to those users to better manage Department properties.

**Chairman Samanie** asked if the self-clearing permits could note whether someone was using an airboat on Maurepas Swamp WMA. Mr. Tuma stated they could get the data on users at Maurepas Swamp WMA and poll them on whether they were using an airboat. **Commissioner Courville** added that the use of airboats requires a special permit and Mr. Tuma added they have to use designated airboat trails.

**Commissioner McPherson** talked about several technical errors and Mr. Tuma noted those corrections would be changed. Then the **Commissioner** felt allowing 100 pounds of crawfish be caught a day was excessive but Mr. Tuma stated that was standard language on all WMAs. **Commissioner McPherson** next wondered if the new language on electric bikes was due to previous discussions and Mr. Tuma stated there were no regulations on electric bikes and this proposal would keep those users confined to open ATV, UTV trails or roads. **Commissioner McPherson** relayed the information he received from a public comment and felt this was in response to that e-mail but not in the way requested. Mr. Tuma explained that the commenter uses Bayou Pierre WMA and the trail on the WMA was extended further into the WMA. Another reason for the proposed regulation was to avoid any conflicts amongst users. **Commissioner McPherson** stated he appreciated the new language on banning the use of deer urine and asked if deer urine was used in the manufacture of deer wafers. Mr. Johnathan Bordelon, Deer Program Manager, stated they would need to look at that question, but noted if the product contained natural deer urine, then it would be prohibited. **Commissioner McPherson** then asked how would this information on prohibiting deer urine be disseminated and Mr. Bordelon stated it would be posted as a new proposed regulation and once the hunting pamphlet was printed, it would be included in the new regulations for the year. The **Commissioner** then requested that some effort be made to contact retailers and let them know their customers will not be able to use that product. Next, **Commissioner McPherson** talked about the prohibition of possessing a firearm when trailing a deer after dark with a dog. Mr.



Tuma stated a hunter can have a gun on his possession when trailing a deer after dark but he cannot use it to kill a wounded deer. **Commissioner McPherson** read the statement that was of concern: "In addition, a dog may be used to trail and retrieve unrecovered deer after legal hunting hours; however, no person accompanying a dog after legal hunting hours may carry a firearm of any sort." Assistant Secretary Randy Myers explained that his concern was allowing hunters to carry firearms after hours if they were trailing a wounded deer or not would use this regulation as their excuse to possess a firearm. **Commissioner McPherson** then asked Col. Sammy Martin why he cannot notify the Sheriff's Office and the Enforcement Office when he goes out at night carrying his AR-15 with a silencer and night scope when he is after a deer. Col. Martin stated that could be done. **Commissioner Smitko** understood the Enforcement's standpoint, but she stated she would not go into the woods at night without a gun. The **Commissioner** further commented that the regulation should say that you cannot discharge a gun but should not say a person cannot carry a firearm. Mr. Tuma noted staff would look at cleaning that language and present it to the Commission.

**Commissioner Yakupzack** wondered about the turkey changes, especially removing 2 parishes and portions of 4 other parishes from turkey Area A and putting them into Area C. He felt there may be opposition heard on this change during the public comment period. The **Commissioner** then asked Mr. Cody Cedotal if there has not been better recruitment, better hatch survival within the last few years. Mr. Cedotal stated this area was in the Atchafalaya Basin and has suffered the most intense decline in harvest and populations since the 2011 floods. The last change affecting this area has only been effective during the 2018 turkey season, but staff was still concerned with reproductive recruitment in the area. Mr. Cedotal expected the change would cut the harvest back by 30% which may allow more males to carry over for breeding purposes. In an attempt to suppress comments, a stakeholder meeting was held with landowners and representatives at the end of October and from that meeting, support was received to move forward with this change. **Commissioner Yakupzack** felt that was an outstanding way of handling this change and appreciated those efforts. Then the **Commissioner** applauded the regulation prohibiting the use of motorized decoys and asked why the turkey cannot survive on Dewey Wills WMA. Mr. Cedotal stated Dewey Wills WMA was a bottomland hardwood area and was subject to extreme wet conditions and this would restrict turkeys to ridge habitat. He further explained that the turkey population was declining and resulting in no interest and no participation in the turkey lottery hunt on Dewey Wills WMA.

General Counsel Garrett reminded the Commission of the discussion on prohibiting the carrying of a firearm and wondered if a change was requested, then a motion and second would be required. **Commissioner McPherson** felt the requirement of calling Enforcement to report a person would be carrying a firearm after dark during hog hunting should be required for deer hunters trailing a deer with a dog. Col. Martin agreed that a hunter could call in and report a hunter would be trailing a wounded deer with a firearm. **Commissioner McPherson** felt there would be time to make the call since this regulation applies to trailing a deer with a dog. Col. Martin added that the number to call was on the license and a dispatcher was available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. The Colonel added that if a person has a conceal carry permit, he can legally carry a firearm but **Commissioner McPherson** noted the regulation did not conform to the Constitution provision that was being referred to. The **Commissioner** then made the motion to require a hunter contact the Department before trailing a deer after dark with a dog and

**Commissioner Smitko** seconded the motion. **Commissioner Courville** asked if the motion was to make it legal to dispatch a deer at night after calling Enforcement and he was told yes. **Commissioner Smitko** added the hunter could carry a gun if he was tracking a deer with a dog. **Chairman Samanie** asked if this change only applied to trailing a deer with a dog and **Commissioner Smitko** felt the regulation being discussed only dealt with the use of dogs. Mr. Tuma noted if the motion passed, there would be changes needed in several places within the proposal. **Commissioner Smitko** thought if a hunter had not gone to get a dog and called Enforcement, then they should not shoot a deer after dark. **Commissioner Courville** hoped that this vote could be postponed and discussed again at the February Meeting, but if there was a vote now, then he would be opposed. The **Commissioner** stated this requested change was “on the edge of one of the slipperiest slopes on the planet” and repeated again that night hunting for hogs was a gateway of a new generation of outlaws in this state. **Commissioner Courville** was 100% in favor of the intent but still had reservations. **Commissioner McPherson** stated his motion was not to change anything about common sense, but to rectify language that was unconstitutional. **Commissioner Smitko** remarked that there are some things that should be left unsaid and felt the change should be to delete the portion that says “however, no person accompanying a dog after legal hunting hours may carry a firearm of any sort”. **Commissioner McPherson** agreed and made his motion to delete the phrase “however no person accompanying a dog after legal hunting hours may carry a firearm of any sort.”. **Commissioner Smitko** seconded **Commissioner McPherson’s** motion. Secretary Montoucet stated the Commission was trying to fix a problem that has not been identified so far. Before voting, **Commissioner Courville** asked if this proposal was statewide or just WMAs and **Commissioner McPherson** stated it would be a general regulation. Hearing no further discussion, the motion was approved.

**Commissioner Sunseri** made a motion to adopt the Notice of Intent with the amendments and it was seconded by **Commissioner Hogan**. There being no public comments, the Notice of Intent was adopted with amendments. Mr. Tuma noted he would receive public comments until March 2 and at the Commission Meetings. A list of public hearings was shown and Mr. Tuma mentioned it would be posted on the Department’s website. **Chairman Samanie** asked that the comments received by Mr. Tuma be forwarded to the Commission. **Commissioner Courville** wanted to receive the comments on a weekly basis. Then **Commissioner Courville** asked for a presentation from the Department of Agriculture and Forestry on the measures they are taking to prevent CWD from entering this state.

Reconvening from a break, **Chairman Samanie** asked Mr. Cole Garrett, General Counsel, to present his agenda item, **Receive and Consider a Notice of Intent to Modify Oyster Leasing Policies and Procedures and Establish Procedures to Lift the Oyster Lease Moratorium**. Mr. Garrett began his presentation stating his goals for this Notice of Intent, then went through reasons for the moratorium which was due in part to the Caernarvon Freshwater Diversion and the Avenal Class Action Lawsuit. In March 2002, the Commission adopted a moratorium on issuing new oyster leases or to expand oyster leases. In 2007, the Commission allowed the Department to process the backlog of received applications. In 2008, the Louisiana Legislature passed Act 808 which was to establish a Committee to initiate a process to lift the moratorium by making recommendations. The Committee’s recommendations, which were the result of a compromise, were delivered in 2009 of which most could be adopted by the Commission; however, 2 recommendations needed legislative action (exempt liability for pre-existing oil and

gas activity and reevaluate State ownership of leased water bottoms 3 years before renewal). Beginning in 2011 through 2015, legislation was proposed to accomplish the recommendations by the Committee but none were successful. The Oyster Task Force created a Moratorium Lifting Subcommittee to help with this moratorium. The Subcommittee met regularly throughout 2015 and 2016 and developed legislation that became House Bill 902 which passed as Act 595 of the 2016 Legislative Session. Mr. Garrett then explained the significant aspects of Act 595 which included subservience to existing oil and gas activities and how it applies only to those oyster leases applied for after July 1, 2017; no requirement to reevaluate State claim to water bottoms before renewal; require CPRA review and authorize buffer zones along the coast for not only new or expanded leases but for renewals as well; and the preferential phases of lifting the moratorium. Phase 0 deals with the backlog of leases existing in 2002 which only counts for about 40; Phase 1 are for those 274 non-renewed Avenal leases; Phase 2 will be the incorporation of adjacent water bottoms for existing leases (expansion phase); Phase 3 will be the incorporation of private leases that were issued to state claim lease or dual claim lease; Phase 4 and Phase 5 are the lottery phases. Also during the 2016 Legislative Session, Act 570 passed which serves as a companion legislation to Act 595. The purpose of Act 570 was to address the dual claimed lands problem. Maps of dual claimed water bottoms as recognized by the State Lands Office website for St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes and the Terrebonne/Lafourche area was shown. Other purposes of Act 570 were to reduce litigation arising from dual claimed conflicts and legitimize oyster harvested from private leases on state claimed water bottoms that were executed and properly recorded by February 1, 2016. Mr. Garrett then stated that the proposed rule would come from Act 808, Act 595 and Act 570. The procedure for application for new leases, subject to preexisting Coastal Use Permit activity and the procedure for applications for renewals was presented. Next discussed for the proposed rule was the subordination and designation of access channels which does not apply to Phase 0 or Phase 1 leases. The process and fee for the Department to conduct desktop examinations in lieu of private surveys or the Department conducting a survey and costs for the public to use GIS data to obtain an oyster lease was talked about by Mr. Garrett. The section from the proposed rule on joint leasing and how they can occur were worked through and resulted in a 2-step process – dual claim agreement (private claimant and the State) and the dual claim lease (a lease issued by the Department to an oyster lease applicant). The Department shall receive \$3 per acre per year for oyster leases which was not a new regulation; however, a private claimant may negotiate a private rental payment with stipulations attached. Mr. Garrett emphasized that joint leasing was not mandated, the State can issue a state lease at any time as long as the lessee holds the Department harmless for any claims of ownership. Again, rules for lifting the Oyster Lease Moratorium from Phase 0 to Phase 5 was noted by Mr. Garrett. Other items that are in the proposed rules are the regulation that there will be no leases in WMAs or public oyster seed grounds as these areas are set aside for the general public; heritability of oyster leases; mandating compact lease configurations; splitting of leases and default in rental payment. (A copy of Mr. Garrett's presentation is included in the Appendices Section of the Minutes.)

**Commissioner Sunseri** commended Mr. Garrett on the presentation and knew this process was a huge challenge. Mr. Garrett mentioned that working through the Oyster Task Force and its Subcommittee was a good experience which resulted in this proposed rule. He did further feel there may be some contentious issues with it. **Chairman Samanie** asked how long has the Department worked on this issue and Mr. Garrett stated Act 808 happened in 2008 but the

moratorium has been in place since 2002. **Commissioner Courville** asked if a notice would be released to the public on an application for a particular boundary and Mr. Garrett answered that as soon as an application was registered by the Oyster Lease Section, that information goes on the Department website which begins a 90-day notice and period of protest. **Commissioner Courville** wondered if the website would be updated on the 15th of each month and he was told that as applications come in, it would be updated. On the GIS data, **Commissioner Courville** asked if a fee of \$200 could provide a person with a sense of where all of the oyster leases are in the state and he was told yes. The **Commissioner** then noticed there was not an update fee to charge for data that changes over time. Mr. Marc Maniscalco, Oyster Lease Program Manager, stated they would look into that and added that there is an Excel spreadsheet on the website that lists lease owners. **Commissioner Courville** felt once this process began, people may want to stay as current as possible and asked the Department to consider that. He then noted the statement, an oyster lessee has to hold the Department harmless and asked if there was a similar obligation to defend the state in an oyster lawsuit and Mr. Garrett stated that would be part of the lease agreement. Then **Commissioner Courville** asked how would someone that wants to get into the oyster business know what was available to lease to which Mr. Maniscalco stated that person could come to the office or view on the Department's website a map to see what was unleased water bottoms, state land claims to show dual claimed, state-owned or potentially private leases. **Commissioner Courville** wondered if there were any portions of coastal Louisiana that were off limit to oyster leasing, Mr. Maniscalco noted leases were typically issued within the inside-outside line and does not go out past the 3-mile line.

At this point, **Chairman Samanie** asked for public comments.

Mr. Paul Frey, Executive Director of the Louisiana Landowners Association, stated several members have oyster leases and they have been working with the process. He then asked the Commission to table the vote since they have not had ample time to digest what was in the proposed rule and compare it to the legislation due to the holidays. Mr. Frey further commented they would like to share their concerns prior to the Notice of Intent being published.

Mr. Mitch Jurisich, Louisiana Oyster Task Force, agreed with Mr. Garrett that they have worked with this proposal for 4 years or more with the legislation. He then noted the Task Force wishes to see this document move forward and get the process started. Mr. Jurisich added that the Commission was provided with the Task Force's objections to the proposal, but there was a lot of compromise. Then to Mr. Frey he stated, they had a lot of time to vet with the Task Force and to postpone would put the process another month behind. The Department put the proposal together and the Oyster Task Force wanted to see it move forward as this process may take several years to reach the different phases.

Ms. Taylor Naquin stated she was in favor of Mr. Frey's request for more time. She noted that it was not fair that the oil and gas and landowners were not able to vote when the legislation was established allowing for their vote.

**Commissioner Sunseri** asked Assistant Secretary Patrick Banks if he had any comments to add on this issue. Assistant Secretary Banks began stating this moratorium has been in place for a long time and it was important for the oyster industry to be able to move forward. The concerns

from the landowners and Ms. Naquin were valid, but Assistant Secretary Banks felt the public notice provides the time for more input. Assistant Secretary Banks felt the oyster industry as well as the industries along the coast needed to adapt to the coastal changes and one way to adapt was to move to productive areas. He again stated moving forward and lifting the moratorium was important to the industry and he would like to see it moved. The Assistant Secretary did note it was completely within the Commission's purview to delay action for one month.

**Chairman Samanie** asked if the final rule would come back before the Commission after 90 days and Mr. Garrett stated typically the Commission allows the Secretary to promulgate the final rule. But if the Department receives lots of public comments on an issue, Mr. Garrett wanted to bring the item back before the Commission to make sure it was their intent to move forward, which was exactly what he would do with this proposal. **Commissioner Smitko** asked if the Commission voted to move forward, this would be final in a month and Mr. Garrett answered no, and explained the Administrative Procedure Act process that no rule can become final before 90 days. Then **Commissioner Smitko** asked if this proposal could become final without coming back before the Commission and Mr. Garrett commented procedurally yes, if there is language to give the Secretary authority in the proposal. **Commissioner Yakupzack** commented that the Secretarial authority was in the proposed Notice of Intent but could be removed which would allow the oil and gas, landowners, citizens, oystermen, Task Force members to make comments and then after 90 days, it could be considered and finalized.

**Commissioner Smitko** asked, if the Secretarial authority language was not removed and the proposal was passed, then a final rule could be adopted without coming back to the Commission. Assistant Secretary Banks answered it can be but does not have to be, to which the **Commissioner** added she wanted to know if this proposal has to come back to the Commission. Assistant Secretary Banks stated the only way to ensure this would come back before the Commission was to strict the Secretarial authority to promulgate a final rule language.

**Commissioner Courville** asked Mr. Garrett to explain how long the groups have had to look at this proposal or was this the first time they were seeing it. Mr. Garrett thought a copy was provided to Mr. Tim Allen with the Landowners Association and a voted and agreed upon copy was provided at an Oyster Task Force meeting back in October. **Commissioner Smitko** had questions on the proposal and knew of the concerns in pushing action back a month, but she felt this was extremely complicated, especially with the dual claimed lands. Mr. Garrett was available to answer any questions and felt it good to know the questions in the event this was delayed a month so the Department can find resolutions. **Commissioner Smitko** began stating the burden was placed on the private landowner, but did not believe in the dual claimed idea (either owned by the state or an individual or entity). The **Commissioner** also had legal beliefs who the oysters on the bottom belonged to if the land was privately owned, and so dual claim lands was a problem. **Commissioner Smitko** asked why were the leases being allowed to expand by 500 feet. Mr. Garrett stated it was mandated by Act 808 and the reason was explained that as land would erode, the lessees could contour their lease making sure there is no gap between the shore and their lease. **Commissioner Smitko** wondered what was an average size lease and she was told that the Department does not allow applications for a single lease to exceed 1,000 acres and an individual cannot hold more than 2,500 acres. Mr. Garrett further stated an average lease was 50 acres. **Commissioner Smitko** then asked if the 500-foot expansion was allowed in every direction or the shorter side. Mr. Garrett explained the 500-foot expansion would be allowed toward an eroding shoreline or between 2 leases where there may be a 500-foot gap. **Commissioner Smitko** felt, based on Mr. Garrett's explanation, that a lessee

could consume a lot of additional acreage by expanding 500 feet in each direction to which Mr. Garrett stated that was correct assuming the 1,000 acre or 2,500 acre maximums were not exceeded. **Commissioner Smitko** mentioned she still did not understand the rationale. **Commissioner Sunseri** explained that historically, this has been a long standing practice to do this between eroding areas since he has been in the business and even before then. Secretary Montoucet felt the Department would never get past the start line if the proposal was not moved forward and assured the Commission they would have the opportunity to make any needed changes.

**Commissioner Smitko**, in a dual claim situation, asked why was there a cap on what a private landowner can charge and Mr. Garrett admitted this was a compromise to avoid litigation and the \$3 fee was what the Legislature felt was a fair market for what the state could receive and so it was applied to private leases as well to make it consistent and match those of a state-issued lease. **Commissioner Smitko** understood but commented the position was the state owned everything and a lot of money would need to be spent to prove the state wrong. Mr. Garrett totally agreed with **Commissioner Smitko** on her comments on dual claim versus dual ownership, noting dual ownership was not a thing. He added dual claim was established through the statutes and both the state and private landowner were agreeing to issue an oyster lease and not have to litigate it which protects all involved for now. Going on, the **Commissioner** asked if oyster leases are heritable but applications have to appoint a representative; Mr. Garrett relayed that both are heritable and regulation allows 180 days to select a representative or finalize succession papers and this applies to leases as well. **Commissioner Smitko** asked if the leases last 15 years and Mr. Garrett answered yes, with the right of first refusal for renewal. **Commissioner Smitko** presented the scenario of an owner dies but the heir was not a resident of the state, does the lease terminate the date of the death or how was that determined. Mr. Maniscalco noted the leases were heritable and transferable. He added that if a lessee passes away, proof of residency would not always come to light and this proposal allows for a period of 180 days for those individuals to come forward and allows the Department to take action or allows the non-resident to sell their lease to a resident and keep the lease in commerce. **Commissioner Smitko** asked how would the public notice on dual claims be made and Mr. Garrett stated it would be posted under the Oyster Lease Section on the Department's website. **Commissioner Smitko** then commented that public notice implies due process which means fair and reasonable notice, so she asked if putting this information on the Department's website was a proper notice for landowners that were not involved in the oyster industry. Mr. Garrett answered yes, and added that most of the coastal landowners have provided the Department with property descriptions they claim they own and when an application comes in on that property, the Department already knows it's a dual claim property. He further mentioned that by issuing an oyster lease or acting upon an application, a private claimant never loses its right to seek adjudication. **Commissioner Smitko** wanted to make sure this was not protecting only those landowners that may own thousands of acres. Mr. Garrett indicated the legislation provided that publication on the Department's website was sufficient for notification. **Commissioner Smitko** inquired as to what legislation provided that language and Mr. Garrett stated it was Act 595. He added that more stringent stipulations have been incorporated into this proposal. **Commissioner Smitko** understood the Secretary's comment, but noted the Commission has asked several times that they be provided with proposals ahead of the meeting to allow the members to study them and ask questions. The **Commissioner** told Mr. Garrett she had additional questions but would contact him by phone to

discuss and further mentioned that unless the Secretarial authority language was not removed from the proposal, she would not vote to advance this Notice of Intent. Mr. Garrett commented he was available to discuss this regulation and felt it had been presented to the Commission in a timely manner but knew it to be a complex document. **Commissioner Smitko** responded by saying the Commission should receive a presentation on an item at one meeting and vote on it at the next meeting.

Ms. Taylor Naquin stated the Department already knows what lands are private or dual claimed and a private landowner will have to watch the website every day to see if an application has been made for his lease. She added they have to fight for themselves.

**Commissioner Courville** asked Mr. Garrett if the Department already knows what land was privately claimed and he was told only to a degree, noting large landowners have provided that information to the Department. **Commissioner Courville** then felt it was the burden of every landowner to look at a GIS map and notify the Department their property falls within that shape file by providing a title to their land, then that would query the process. Mr. Garrett stated that would give the Department notice there is a private claim on that water bottom especially if they have entered into a dual claim agreement with the state. **Commissioner Courville** stated he was trying to understand the process on how this would work and Mr. Garrett explained the process noting an application was looked at and sent to State Lands Office and they stated the land was claimed or not; if the state claimed the land, the lease was issued without having a 90-day period of contest nor was there the opportunity for a landowner to protest. The proposal would provide the landowner with a 90-day period of contest and possibly have a dual claim agreement with the state, which was better than what the process was in the past. **Commissioner Courville** then asked that the proposed scenario be reviewed and see how that can work. **Chairman Samanie** asked what if a landowner provides title but the state claimed it and would lease it, and the landowner wants to lease it, how would that work. Mr. Garrett stated that landowner and state would lay claim to property, the landowner would need to apply for a state application; and in response to the **Chairman's** question on whether he has the right of first refusal, Mr. Garrett answered no, it would be through the lottery system or first come-first serve as the state was laying claim to the title. **Commissioner Smitko** asked if there was an indemnification provision in all of the leases and Mr. Garrett noted it was in the leases subject to a dual claim agreement where the oyster lessee opts out of that protection. **Commissioner Smitko** then talked about different options on dual claim leases and asked if an oyster fisherman indemnifies the State from any cause of action for damage. Mr. Garrett stated if there is a notice given to the State of a claim on water bottoms and there is no dual claim agreement and the state issues a lease, but the landowner goes through the protest period and the State Lands Office says the state still claims the property, then no indemnification would be required. **Commissioner Smitko** did not feel that made sense, if a landowner owns property and the State Land Office says no, we own the property, then the State leases that area and the landowner goes to court and is adjudicated to the landowner, then damages would be owed. Mr. Garrett stated when an adjudication in court is gotten under R.S. 56:425.E it would be limited to determination of ownership. **Commissioner Smitko** commented she would sue for trespassing; then suggested putting an indemnification in all provisions. Mr. Garrett offered to contact the Attorney General's Office and look into it.

Ms. Taylor Naquin stated the Oyster Moratorium Committee made the rules so a landowner would have the burden to hire a lawyer and prove who the property belongs to.

**Commissioner Sunseri** believed that this issue was very complicated and it has taken nearly 11 years to get to this point. He felt the legislature wanted this to come to an end and be resolved. The **Commissioner** noted he has been involved in this issue since 1996 when the moratorium was put into place and knew there has been no forward movement on the development of oyster water bottoms in the state. He knew oysters have always been an issue, dating back to the 1920's when the Federal Government did not want them served raw. **Commissioner Courville** asked if there was a term to force a vote on this issue in February and Mr. Garrett suggested the Commission make a motion to bring this back to the Commission in February. **Commissioner Courville** felt, according to Roberts Rules of Order, that if an item was tabled, then action was required to be taken. Mr. Garrett thought if a motion was made to table an item, then it would need to be considered again, but not necessarily to mandate action should be taken.

**Commissioner Smitko** asked Mr. Garrett about his reference to R.S. 56:425 and mentioned it refers to boundary disputes of leases that the Secretary can settle and does not refer to indemnification or hold harmless agreements. Mr. Garrett commented he referred to R.S. 56:425 to determine a decision of ownership. **Commissioner Smitko** asked that the indemnification issue be looked at before moving forward. **Commissioner Courville** made a motion to move this agenda item to February 2019 and require action by the Commission at that meeting. Mr. Garrett did not think the **Commissioner** could mandate the Commission to take action.

**Commissioner Courville** then revised his motion to bring this agenda item back before the Commission in February for consideration and it was seconded by **Commissioner Hogan**. Hearing no further discussion, the motion passed with **Commissioner Sunseri** abstaining from the vote. Mr. Garrett commented he would be available to get as many questions as possible answered before the next meeting. **Commissioner Courville** asked that any additional information that is provided be given to all Commissioners.

Before Assistant Secretary Patrick Banks began the next agenda, **Receive and Consider a Notice of Intent to Un-Designate Certain Water Bottoms East of the Mississippi River as Public Oyster Seed Grounds**, he too offered himself and his staff would be available to discuss the previous agenda item since he felt it was extremely important to help the industry move forward. Assistant Secretary Banks commented this proposed agenda item fell in line with the purpose of lifting the moratorium. He mentioned that the oyster industry has adapted to changes in the market and environment for generations. The change in environment has occurred by moving space but this has not occurred since 1996 due to the oyster moratorium. Assistant Secretary Banks added that some parts of the coast will not allow the industry to move to since those areas may already be leased or held as public oyster seed grounds. This proposed action would help to make some of the public oyster seed grounds available for leasing. The proposed area would be the Black Bay area east of the Mississippi River to which Assistant Secretary Banks noted historically, the Black Bay Basin was an extremely productive area for oysters. However, the area south of Bayou Terre aux Boeufs has become unproductive with the declining beginning in 2001. Even if the moratorium was lifted, oyster leaseholders would not have the option to move except if they would go further west to the Barataria or Terrebonne. The purpose of this action was to take some of the grounds east of the Mississippi River and un-designate them as public oyster seed grounds and allow them to be leased. Assistant Secretary Banks



emphasized there is nothing in the Notice of Intent that gives preferential treatment for any leaseholder to get the first right to these areas. At the last meeting, Morgan Harbor was included in the areas to be un-designated; however, public comment was received on how productive that area has been. Staff has decided to remove the Morgan Harbor area from the proposed action and this dropped the available acreage from 56,000 acres to 40,000 which was only 4% of the current acreage available east of the Mississippi River. The Oyster Task Force agreed with the Department to put this area back into leasable areas in 2017 and Assistant Secretary Banks commented this included Morgan Harbor. He noted the salinities in this area were conducive for oysters, unfortunately the Department did not have the funding to enhance every area of the coast which included this area. (A copy of Mr. Banks' presentation is included in the Appendices Section of the Minutes.)

**Chairman Samanie** asked if in the last 10 years has the Department put down rocks or gravel in this area and he was told no. **Commissioner Courville**, while trying to understand the oyster lifting moratorium, asked if this area would qualify for Phase II as these sites are bayward and not landward as it relates to the 500-foot expansion. Assistant Secretary Banks did not think it would qualify in theory, but the state would have to look at all of the nooks and crannies following the shoreline. Mr. Garrett commented it would stay as a public oyster seed ground until Phase IV when it was removed and the lottery phase began. **Commissioner Sunseri** asked if there are about 900,000 acres of public oyster seed ground east of the Mississippi River and Assistant Secretary Banks felt that was about right. **Commissioner Smitko** asked if this area could be productive and Assistant Secretary Banks stated it could be productive with the right investments on the water bottoms but the State just did not have the available funding now. **Commissioner Smitko** then asked about an area that she thought may be available seed grounds on the map and Assistant Secretary Banks stated that area (south Breton Sound) was past public oyster grounds that the Department was directed by legislation to put into leasable grounds. **Commissioner Smitko** asked where on the map are the public oyster seed grounds other than what was being proposed to be removed and she was told everything east and south of the white line except for the south Breton Sound. The **Commissioner's** concern was that once a potentially productive area was given up, it could never be given back. Then she asked how many oyster fishermen would be helped in a few years if the Department had the money to rebuild the area as opposed to how many oystermen would be helped if the area was leased. Assistant Secretary Banks understood **Commissioner Smitko's** concern but felt there was a debate to either hold this area for everyone or allow it to be leased by those who would apply for a lease. **Commissioner Smitko** asked if a corporation can hold leases and she was told yes, as long as it was domiciled in the state. Then she wondered if corporations could come in and lease the entire 40,000 acres and again she was told yes, as long as they meet the requirements of a leasehold entity. **Commissioner Courville** added that the corporation would need to be picked by the lottery. Assistant Secretary Banks stated that the method of who this area was leased to was directed by state law and this proposed action does not say who can or cannot lease the area. **Commissioner Smitko** felt in 6 months' time, whether by legislation or proposed action, a proposal could be made to give the oyster fishermen whose leases have gone bad right of first refusal and Assistant Secretary Banks agreed that could happen but he noted that may be in conflict with what was already in law. After **Commissioner Smitko** asked how, Assistant Secretary Banks stated the only way to lease under the law was with the moratorium lifting committee phases or under the existing law of first come-first serve. Mr. Garrett added that he

was not aware of any legal authority to give preferential treatment on relocation to any of those oyster fishermen. Secretary Montoucet told the Commission that options needed to be provided for those fishermen that have unproductive oyster leases. He continued stating the Department honored the request by the Governor by looking at the coast and deciding this proposed area would be such an area. Secretary Montoucet noted the Department could not give preferential treatment without some legislation. Concluding, he added staff has put a lot of effort into this proposal to honor the Governor's request and hoped it would be moved forward.

**Commissioner Yakupzack** asked if there were any public comment cards on this item and the **Chairman** answered no. However, **Chairman Samanie** asked the audience if anyone would like to speak on this item and 1 person asked to speak.

Mr. Adley Dyson, Cameron, Louisiana, stated he was looking at this proposal as a poor oyster boat owner, and if a man did not have money to lease water bottoms he could go fish this area. But if the area was leased, he would be out of a job.

**Commissioner Courville** commented he was in favor of moving this Notice of Intent forward but if there were any fishermen that would have problems with this action, they would provide comment to the Commission or Department and express those concerns. **The Commissioner** then made a motion to move forward with the proposal with the requirement that it comes back before the Commission after the public comment period has ended to make it final and that motion was seconded by **Commissioner Yakupzack**.

Mr. Brad Robin, leaseholder with the State, commented the State was at a road block right now, having problems with rebuilding the coast and fresh water. People have been paying for leases from the MRGO to Bayou Terre aux Boeufs for 20 years that cannot sustain oysters but each year they pay their renewal fee hoping for an opportunity such as that being presented. Mr. Robin added that if something was not done with the oyster industry in this state, there will not be an oyster industry in this state.

**Commissioner Courville** hoped Secretary Montoucet understood the reason behind not giving the Secretary authority to proceed in hopes of discussing it again. Secretary Montoucet did not object with the request. Hearing no further discussion, the motion was approved with opposition from **Commissioner Smitko**.

(The full text of the Notice of Intent is made a part of the record.)

## **NOTICE OF INTENT**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

Public Oyster Seed Grounds East of the Mississippi River (LAC 76:VII.511)

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend Rule LAC 76:VII.511, un-designating a portion of the Public Oyster Seed Grounds East of the Mississippi River. Approximately 40,248 acres in the western portion of the seed grounds shall be set aside for oyster leasing as per provisions of subpart D of Part VII of Louisiana Revised Statutes Title 56, and shall no longer be designated as a seed ground upon commencement of the first lottery phase of the oyster moratorium lifting process pursuant to the provisions of Phase Four of Section 2 of Act 595 of the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature. Authority to modify the Public Oyster Seed Ground boundaries is vested in the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission by R.S. 56:434(A).

## **Title 76**

### **WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

#### **Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life**

##### **Chapter 5. Oyster**

##### **§511. Public Oyster Seed Grounds East of the Mississippi River**

A. The public oyster seed grounds east of the Mississippi River are described as that portion of state water bottoms hatched on the map below, except as follows:

1. ~~for that the~~ portion as described in Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) 76:VII.531.B. (Oyster Lease Relocation) and more particularly described as that area within the following coordinates (North American Datum 1983):

a. South Breton Sound

- i. 89 degrees 27 minutes 49.74 seconds W  
29 degrees 27 minutes 48.91 seconds N;
- ii. 89 degrees 26 minutes 36.54 seconds W  
29 degrees 27 minutes 48.89 seconds N;
- iii. 89 degrees 26 minutes 36.47 seconds W  
29 degrees 26 minutes 38.48 seconds N;
- iv. 89 degrees 28 minutes 04.69 seconds W  
29 degrees 26 minutes 43.66 seconds N;
- v. 89 degrees 28 minutes 58.49 seconds W  
29 degrees 26 minutes 41.69 seconds N.

2. The below described areas, comprising approximately 40,248 acres, shall no longer be designated as a seed ground and shall be set aside for oyster leasing as per provisions of subpart D of Part VII of Louisiana Revised Statutes Title 56, upon commencement of the first lottery phase of the oyster moratorium lifting process pursuant to the provisions of Phase Four of Section 2 of Act 595 of the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature:

a. North Breton Sound

i. 89 degrees 24 minutes 00.000 seconds W  
29 degrees 41 minutes 00.468 seconds N;

ii. 89 degrees 24 minutes 00.000 seconds W  
29 degrees 34 minutes 30.000 seconds N;

iii. 89 degrees 27 minutes 56.000 seconds W  
29 degrees 34 minutes 30.000 seconds N;

iv. 89 degrees 27 minutes 56.000 seconds W  
29 degrees 41 minutes 12.400 seconds N;

v. following the current public oyster seed ground boundary

line and shorelines back to point of beginning.

b. Bay Eloi

i. 89 degrees 17 minutes 12.190 seconds W  
29 degrees 45 minutes 49.160 seconds N;

ii. 89 degrees 23 minutes 46.500 seconds W  
29 degrees 41 minutes 09.948 seconds N;

iii. following the current public oyster seed ground boundary

line and shorelines back to point of beginning.



**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:434.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Office of Coastal and Marine Resources, LR 14:716 (October 1988), amended by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 37:1624 (June 2011), LR 45:\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_2019).

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Notice of Intent, including but not limited to, the filing of the Fiscal and Economic Impact Statement, the filing of

the Notice of Intent and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

### **Family Impact Statement**

In accordance with Act 1183 of 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent. This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out in R.S. 49:972 (B).

### **Poverty Impact Statement**

The proposed rulemaking will have no impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973.

### **Provider Impact Statement**

This rule has no known impact on providers as described in HCR 170 of 2014.

### **Public Comments**

Written comments should be addressed to Carolina Bourque, Marine Fisheries Biologist, 200 Dulles Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506, or via e-mail to: cbourque@la.gov prior to March 5, 2019.

Robert J. Samanie, III  
Chairman

Then **Chairman Samanie** announced the next agenda item, **Receive a Report on the 2018-2019 Calcasieu Lake Oyster Season** would be given by Mr. George Melancon, Fisheries Biologist. Mr. Melancon stated he was asked to give an update on the Calcasieu Lake oyster harvest and he reminded everyone the Commission agreed to open the oyster season in the West Cove and the East Side on October 29, 2018. Hand tongs was the only legal gear to be used in Calcasieu Lake. Based on the July 2018 stock assessment, it was estimated the East Side had 18,390 available sacks and West Cove had 144,101 sacks. The harvest estimates through December 29, 2018 from the East Side was 1,728 sacks (9.3% of the available stock) and 2,955 sacks (2.1% of the available stock) from West Cove. It was agreed to manage the threshold of 10% for both sides independently and since the East Side was reaching that threshold, action was taken to close the East Side December 31, 2018. Then Mr. Melancon talked about the primary areas of harvest and the number of boats per day with harvest effort. (A copy of Mr. Melancon's presentation is included in the Appendices Section of the Minutes.)

There being no questions from the Commission, **Chairman Samanie** accepted public comments.

Mr. Mark Valentino, Cameron, Louisiana, began stating he has heard stock assessment reports for several years how Calcasieu Lake has a tremendous amount of oysters, even more than all of the wild reefs combined, but the recommendation would be to close the area. In a previous

season, the Department recommended leaving the area closed but the Commission sided with the fishermen and allowed the season to open and as such, the stock assessment doubled in one year. Mr. Valentino then talked about legislative meetings he attended which resulted in closing Calcasieu Lake to hand tonging only. After this regulation passed, the Department conducted their stock assessment and it went up over 100%. He did not feel there has been a regulation which allows only 10% of the market oysters could be taken in any other area nor could he understand why the Department wants to keep the East Side closed even though there was an abundance of oysters. Mr. Valentino agreed with Assistant Secretary Banks' comment that things have changed, noting oyster reefs and productive reefs have changed. He then commented that the Department has been using the same sampling sites that were used 50 years ago when sampling began. The logic of only allowing the take of 10% of the oysters was irrational, according to Mr. Valentino. He then stated that one oyster can produce 4 million a year but added only a small fraction will survive. Next talked about were the tickets issued for using scrapers in Calcasieu Lake to which Mr. Valentino acknowledged it was hard to make a living using hand tongs. He then hoped that the Department would not hastily close Calcasieu Lake. His business only bought 1400 sacks of oyster from November until the beginning of January and Mr. Valentino stated he could not run a business like that. Concluding, Mr. Valentino mentioned that the oyster fishermen in Calcasieu Lake were impacted by the oil spill as much as anyone else and asked that the Department reconsider closing the East Side. Col. Sammy Martin asked Mr. Valentino if he knew of any problems to please call in the complaints.

**Commissioner Yakupzack** asked Mr. Melancon for the status of the season and Mr. Melancon stated the West Cove was closed due to Department of Health regulation and if the Declaration of Emergency would not have happened, the East Side would be closed also. **Commissioner Yakupzack** asked what were the river level thresholds for both sides and Mr. Melancon noted 13.5 for the East Side and 9 foot for West Cove. **Commissioner Yakupzack** asked the Department to look at the numbers after the levels come down to see if there was an opportunity in resource for reopening the oyster season on the East Side. Mr. Melancon stated to reopen the East Side and not go over the 10% threshold would probably result in a 2-day opening.

Mr. Adley Dyson, stated the Commission set the season to open on the East Side but the Department took those rights away. At the last Oyster Task Force meeting on November 29, it was reported 400 sacks were taken from the East Side and 784 sacks from West Cove, but Mr. Dyson felt the numbers were wrong. Mr. Dyson felt 10% of the market sized oysters was nothing, explaining that market-sized oysters were this year's crop and seed oysters were next year's crop.

**Commissioner Sunseri** stated, prior to the BP oil spill, his company would have gone through 1400 sacks in half of a week. He noted he had issues with trip tickets. The **Commissioner** noted he was unable to get oysters to make his business profitable and understood what the fishermen were going through. Then **Commissioner Sunseri** asked the Department if any opportunities become available, he would appreciate **Commissioner Yakupzack's** request be considered.

For the next agenda item, **Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman**, **Chairman Samanie** first asked for nominations for Chairman. **Commissioner Hogan** made a motion to nominate

**Commissioner Sunseri** as Chairman and no other nominations were heard. **Commissioner Sunseri** was elected Chairman by acclamation. Then the **Chairman** asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman. **Commissioner Yakupzack** made a motion to nominate **Commissioner Hogan** as Vice-Chairman with no other nominations being made. **Commissioner Hogan** was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

For the next agenda item, **Set May 2019 Commission Meeting Date**, **Chairman Samanie** asked that this meeting be held in New Orleans since that was when the spring shrimp season would be set. Secretary Montoucet, in response to the March 2019 meeting being held in Woodworth, stated the staff was trying to find a location that would accommodate all that may attend the meeting.

Before leaving for another meeting, Secretary Montoucet stated the Wounded Warriors Heroes Red Snapper event went off really well and he thanked CCA for their participation, the Department of Veteran Affairs and the Department staff (Harry Blanchet, Patrick Banks and Jason Adriance) for putting this successful event together.

Going back to the agenda item to set the May Commission Meeting Date, **Commissioner Yakupzack** made a motion to hold May 2019 Commission Meeting on May 2, 2019 in New Orleans beginning at 9:30 AM. No second or final vote was taken on this item.

Assistant Secretary Randy Myers, in response to a change in the coastal zone duck hunting seasons, stated a shift was created in the rail and gallinule seasons. To keep it from being addressed at the February meeting as an amendment to the Hunting Regulations, Assistant Secretary Myers asked the pleasure of the Commission to change the rail and gallinule to run concurrent with the opening of the coastal zone season. **Commissioner Courville** made a motion to accept the change as explained by Assistant Secretary Myers, seconded by **Commissioner Smitko** and approved with no opposition.

Deputy Secretary Rob Shadoin, as a point of information, relayed to the Commission that May 2<sup>nd</sup> was in the middle of the Legislative Session. The Session begins on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of April. **Chairman Samanie** felt it important to get the May shrimp season open in a timely manner if the shrimp were ready.

**Chairman Samanie** thanked the Department and his fellow Commissioners for allowing him to serve as Chairman this past year. He added that the dedication the Department showed was amazing.

**Chairman Samanie** then asked for **Public Comments**. Mr. Louis Badalamenti, Plaquemines Parish, thanked the Commission and Secretary for allowing him to speak on a very unpleasant experience. On December 29-31, Mr. Badalamenti had a reservation to use the Buckhorn WMA physically challenged handicap (PCHP) area. When he arrived the first morning fully self-sufficient, a Department employee directed him to get in his cart and told him he could not bring his dog to the stand. Mr. Badalamenti explained how his dog had gone with him on several other physically challenged hunts this year (Fort Polk, Sherburne and Buckhorn WMAs) and never made a sound. After a 10-minute debate, the employee ordered the dog be placed in the back of



the cart. Then Mr. Badalamenti stated he was to be picked up at 10:30 but the employee did not show up until around 11:15. When they got back to the front, the employee told Mr. Badalamenti that the dog could not come back. During their conversation, the employee told him that he was in charge and Mr. Badalamenti called and reported his experience from that morning to Mr. Mitch McGee. Mr. McGee told Mr. Badalamenti that the employee, Mr. Randy Ewing, stated he could not hunt any more to which that was reported to the next supervisor, Mr. Lowery Moak. Mr. Moak told Mr. McGee that the hunter could not hunt as there was a problem with his physically challenged handicap card but Mr. Badalamenti felt it was a retaliatory action. On January 2, Mr. Badalamenti called the Enforcement Division to file a complaint and found out Mr. Ewing was not a game warden; then he talked with Mr. Tommy Tuma. This resulted in a meeting with Secretary Montoucet and his staff members. Mr. Badalamenti then explained the positive points of the PCHP but felt there was room for improvements, such as a uniform set of guidelines and the possibility of expanding the days allowed to hunt. He then felt, with a little work, the handicap trails could be easily accessible year round. Mr. Badalamenti then asked who he could work with in order to improve the areas to facilitate handicap hunts. **Commissioner Smitko** apologized for his experience and hoped his meeting would result in appropriate action being taken. Having relatives confined to a wheelchair, the **Commissioner** added she would be happy to facilitate additional areas for handicap hunting. **Commissioner Courville** echoed **Commissioner Smitko's** comments and asked if staff understood Mr. Badalamenti's concern. Assistant Secretary Myers stated, during their meeting, he explained the process the Department has gone through to establish these areas. He noted there are more opportunities on the WMAs but the Department was limited due to manpower and funding. Assistant Secretary Myers added they would continue to work with the Wheelin' Sportsmen group and other such groups to provide opportunities. **Commissioner Courville** asked if Mr. Badalamenti put his thoughts on paper and shared with the Department so they could accommodate where possible. Again, the **Commissioner** echoed **Commissioner Smitko's** comments. Mr. Badalamenti noted he has only written down his complaint against Mr. Ewing but verbally explained his wishes and thoughts. He then mentioned there are no handicap trails on Buckhorn WMA.

Following public comments and hearing no further discussion, **Commissioner Yakupzack** made a motion for **Adjournment** and was unanimously approved.

## **APPENDICES**

## **RULE**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

#### **Registration and Numbering of Houseboats**

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby enact LAC 76:X1.501 establishing rules governing the registration of houseboats. Authority for adoption of the Rule is R.S. 34:851.2(13), 34:851.19, 34:851.20, 34:851.21, 34:851.32(C), and 56:10(B)(17). This Rule is hereby adopted on the day of promulgation.

### **Title 76**

## **WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

### **Part XI. Boating**

#### **Chapter 5. Houseboats**

##### **§501. Houseboat Registration**

A. Beginning on January 1, 2019 every houseboat operated, occupied, inhabited, utilized, or otherwise deployed on the waters of this state must be registered with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and be properly numbered in accordance with R.S. 34:851.20.

B. Houseboat --- a vessel constructed or utilized for the primary purpose of a temporary or permanent dwelling without an effective means of propulsion for safe navigation.

1. When determining whether a vessel meets the definition of a "houseboat", the department shall utilize the standard such that a reasonable observer would conclude that the vessel is capable of being used as an abode, habitation, or dwelling for at least a temporary basis.

a. Such determination should involve, but is not limited to, whether the vessel has a roof and is enclosed, or has multiple walls or structures capable of protecting inhabitants from the elements.

b. Additional evidence that may be considered in determining whether a vessel satisfies the reasonable observer standard include the presence of doors, windows, electrical wiring, plumbing, appliances, cabinetry, bedding, or any other features commonly found in a dwelling. However, the existence or absence of any of these items is not dispositive.

C. Owners of houseboats shall submit an application for registration of houseboats on a department approved form that contains the following:

1. The name and address of the owner;
2. A description of the houseboat including either the HIN or a photo showing the vessel in its entirety;
3. Proof of ownership via title, bill of sale, judgment, or an affidavit averring ownership;
4. Evidence that taxes were paid (i.e. Department of Revenue "R-1331 Form") on the houseboat or the materials used to construct it, or that the vessel was acquired by casual sale and no taxes were due;
5. Signature of the owner.

D. The certificate of number shall be issued in addition to a decal which shall be permanently attached to the houseboat, both to be accessible for inspection at all times when such vessel is upon the waters of the state.

E. Notwithstanding the requirements in R.S. 34:851.20(M), titling of houseboats, whether commercially manufactured or homemade, is not required.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 34:851.2(13), R.S. 34:851.19, R.S. 34:851.20, R.S. 34:851.21, R.S. 34:851.32(C), and R.S. 56:10(B)(17).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,  
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR 45: (January 2019).

Robert J. Samanie, III

Chairman

**JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR**



**JACK MONToucET  
SECRETARY**

PO BOX 98000 | BATON ROUGE LA | 70898

December 6, 2018

Honorable Stuart J. Bishop, Chairman  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
and Environment  
State Capitol  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Honorable Norbert "Norby" Chabert  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Natural Resources  
State Capitol  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: Summary Comments on Registration and Numbering of Houseboats Notice of Intent

Dear Sirs:

Please accept this letter as a summary report on a Notice of Intent to adopt regulations on the registration and numbering of houseboats. The NOI was approved by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at their October 4, 2018 Meeting and published in the October 20, 2018 State Register. Public comment on the proposed rule was received until December 4, 2018.

i) No hearings were conducted pursuant to R.S. 49:953(A)(2).

ii) The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) received no comments for or against the proposal. LDWF did receive several emails inquiring as to the processes of how to register non-motorized houseboats, what the fees would cost, how soon they could register their non-motorized houseboats, why the non-motorized houseboats are now being required to register, etc. I have attached a document that exemplifies the emails regarding requests for information rather than commentary for or against the proposal. Our responses to the emails described the general process of registering the non-motorized houseboats that were included in the proposal.

Here is an example: "The Louisiana Legislature passed Act 628 in 2018, which requires non-motorized houseboats to be registered beginning in January, 2019. This law was passed to assist in the identification of owners of houseboats that are moored in waters of the state across Louisiana and develop a mechanism to remove abandoned or derelict houseboats. The proposed rule is currently out for public comment and will not become final until the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has reviewed public comments received. This rule specifies what is needed to register houseboats and provides a definition of houseboats. These fees are the same as those for other registered vessels. Here is what is required to register a vessel:

Owners of houseboats shall submit an application for registration of houseboats on a department approved form that contains the following:

1. The name and address of the owner;
2. A description of the houseboat including either the HIN or a photo showing the vessel in its entirety;
3. Proof of ownership via title, bill of sale, judgment, or an affidavit averring ownership;
4. Evidence that taxes were paid (i.e. Department of Revenue "R-1331 Form") on the houseboat or the materials used to construct it, or that the vessel was acquired by casual sale and no taxes were due;
5. Signature of the owner."

iii) There were no changes to the proposed rule following the public comment period.

iv) No changes or amendments have been suggested.

A copy of the proposed NOI is attached for your reference. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me or Major Rachel Zechenelly, 225-765-2833.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jack Montoucet", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jack Montoucet  
Secretary

Attachments

Ronald Barbier [rbarbier@mcelectricinc.com](mailto:rbarbier@mcelectricinc.com)

My houseboat has been sitting in the same spot for 20 years. I have no electricity or plumbing in it. It is used only during hunting season and all human waste is disposed of at my residence when I get home to civilization....will I still have to get it registered? If so ....what will be involved in the process

---

PAUL AUCOIN [p\\_aucoin@msn.com](mailto:p_aucoin@msn.com)

I read the notice of intent for registration of houseboats. I was wondering if you can tell me what is going to be the requirements for registration of a houseboat, what's the cost of registration going to be and how much time will be given to get all requirements squared away to get said houseboat registered.

---

Don Falgout [don.falgout@gmail.com](mailto:don.falgout@gmail.com)

what's the process of registry and why now after all this time

---

Jaet, Christopher [cwjjaet@oceanengineering.com](mailto:cwjjaet@oceanengineering.com)

Good morning

I have a few questions on this.

Is this already approved or is it just in discussion?

Who votes on this?

Where would you go to find the registration form?

What info is needed to fill out said form?

What is the cost for registration of camp?

Thanks

Christopher Jaet

---

Louisiana Outdoors [richardst.p1997@gmail.com](mailto:richardst.p1997@gmail.com)

How do I Register my house boat? Also I have a establish lease with the Louisiana Department of land and water I have a lease number and the contact of the person authorized from the state to lease. Do I still have to register my houseboat?

---

EJ Goubert [egoubert@mansongulf.com](mailto:egoubert@mansongulf.com)

What documentation do I need to register my houseboat? Is this the same as a boat registration form?

---

E.J. Goubert

Cell # (985) 209-0959

Bayou Dularge

Houma ,Louisiana 70363

---



---

warden18@aol.com

I own a houseboat and I am curious what is need to do this. What do I have to do? I saw it on Facebook and been reading into it.

---

Corial Folse cfolse@iscgrp.com

Good Afternoon,

Can you please tell me where I can find the information to registration for Houseboats?  
Also all the information associated with it.

Thanks,



*Corial Folse*

Project Manager

E-mail cfolse@iscgrp.com

Cell # 225-572-1533

---

Josh Finnegan joshchanfinnegan@gmail.com

Rachel,

We purchased a small 2 bedroom 1 bath 700 sqft Houseboat last October. We just found out about the state wanting us to register it. How can we proceed without being in violation? Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Best Regards

Josh Finnegan

---

Joshua Colletti cajunman\_31@yahoo.com

Rachel,

I have read the Notice of intent for registration of houseboats. It mentions that the houseboats must be registered before Jan. 1, 2019. What is the steps I must take to get the registration started? Will a site visit or inspection of the houseboat be required? We are plan to move our houseboat for the upcoming duck season and I don't want this to be an issue.

Josh Colletti

Wesley Parker [parkerwesleyd@gmail.com](mailto:parkerwesleyd@gmail.com).

How do you go about registering a houseboat? I've read the intent letter and there's no information on how to complete the process.

---

Shamus LaCoste [shamusl2014@gmail.com](mailto:shamusl2014@gmail.com)

Do you have a copy of the form. How much is it going to cost. I would like all information you can send me on this.

Thanks

---

Money maker, Bobby [bbmoney maker@oceaneering.com](mailto:bbmoney maker@oceaneering.com)

Hi Major Rachel Zechenelly my name is Bobby money maker I've been reading up on the new regulations for houseboats and wondering how do I go about getting the paper work started on my house boat registration if you could help answer this question it would be most appreciated thank you for your time.

Best regards

Bobby money maker III

--

Bobby Money maker III ROV Supervisor



## **Dredge Fill Material Proposed Rules & Regulations**

**Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

Kyle F. Balkum | January 8, 2019

### **New Proposal**

"state claimed" changed to "water bottoms of this state"

(NOI §101.A, C and §103.B.4)

Fill Sand & Fill Material statutes (R.S. 56:2011, et seq)

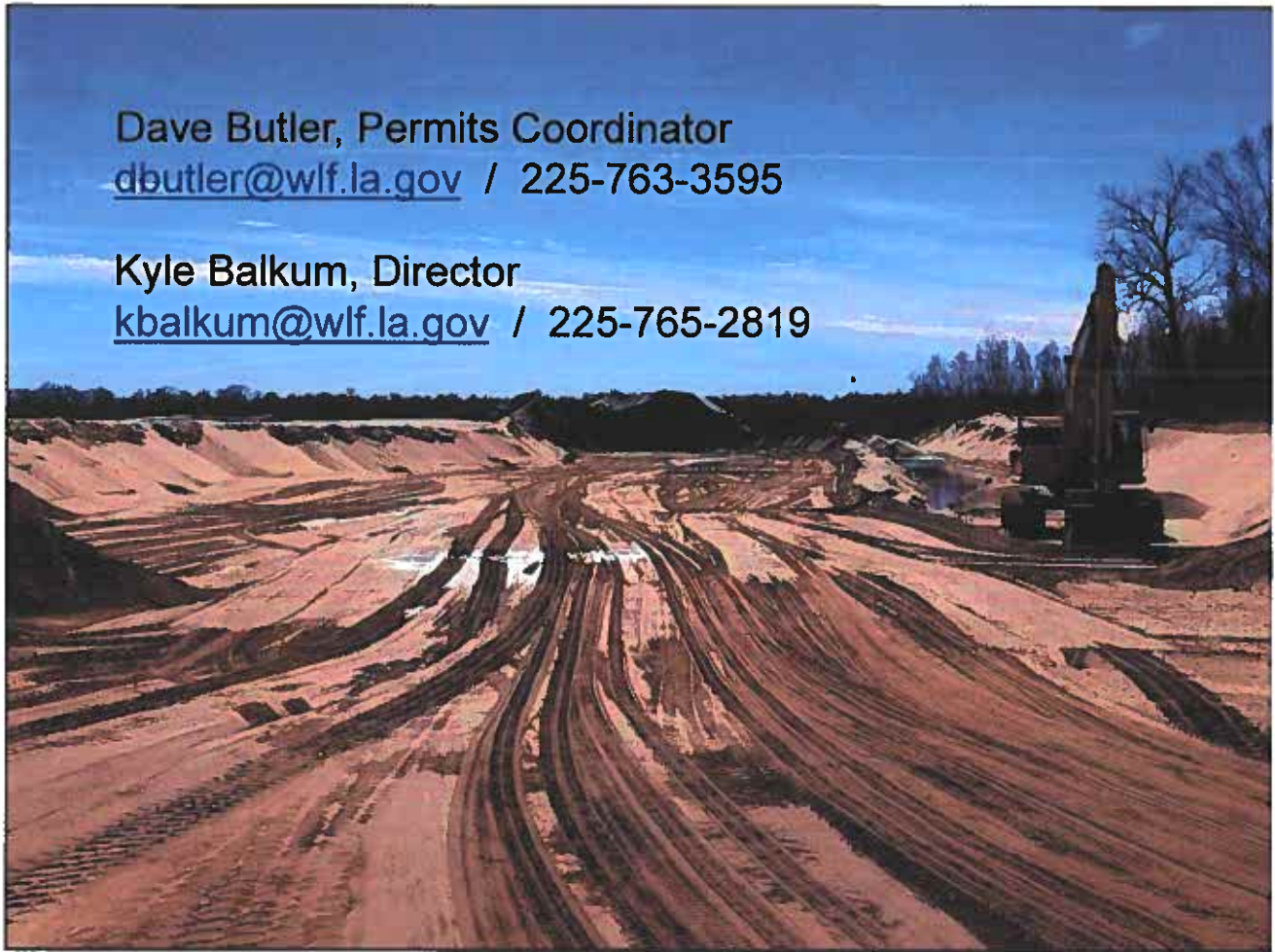
56:2011.A -- "water bottoms of this state"

56:2011.E -- "water body of the state"



Dave Butler, Permits Coordinator  
[dbutler@wlf.la.gov](mailto:dbutler@wlf.la.gov) / 225-763-3595

Kyle Balkum, Director  
[kbalkum@wlf.la.gov](mailto:kbalkum@wlf.la.gov) / 225-765-2819





**2019-20 & 2020-21  
Hunting Seasons and WMA Rules and Regulations**

Tommy Tuma | Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission Meeting | 01/08/2019

**NOI**

**Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds (LAC 76:V.119)**

**Resident Game Hunting Season (LAC 76:XIX.101 and 103)**

**General and Wildlife Management Area Hunting Rules and  
Regulations (LAC 76:XIX.111)**

**General and WMA Turkey Hunting Regulations (LAC  
76:XIX.113)**

**Migratory Bird Seasons, Regulations, and Bag Limits (LAC  
76:XIX.117)**



## Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds (LAC 76:V.119)



### LAC 76:V.1.B Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Addition of language to add Louisiana lands east of the Mississippi River to current Cervid Carcass Importation regulation

B. No person shall import, transport or possess any cervid carcass or part of a cervid carcass originating outside of Louisiana; including Louisiana lands east of the Mississippi River in East Carroll, Madison, Tensas and Concordia parishes except: for: meat that is cut and wrapped; meat that has been boned out; quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached, antlers, clean skull plates with antlers, cleaned skulls without tissue attached, capes, tanned hides, finished taxidermy mounts and cleaned cervid teeth.



## General and Wildlife Management Area Hunting Rules and Regulations (LAC 76:XIX.111)



### LAC 76:XIX.111.D.9

Allowance to hunt nuisance animals and outlaw quadrupeds at night year round and the elimination of the permit need from September-January.

9. Nighttime Take of Nuisance Animals and Outlaw Quadrupeds. On private property, the landowner, or his lessee or agent with written permission from the landowner and the landowner's contact information in his possession, may take outlaw quadrupeds (coyotes, armadillos and feral hogs), nutria, or beaver during the nighttime hours year round, from one-half hour after official sunset on the last day of February to one-half hour after official sunset the last day of August of that same year.





## **LAC 76:XIX.111.E.11**

Ban of the use of natural deer urine as an attractant for hunting purposes. This is proposed as a cautionary measure to stop the potential importation and spread of CWD

11. It is unlawful to use or possess natural scents or lures that contain natural deer urine or other bodily fluids while taking, attempting to take, attracting or scouting wildlife.



## **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.1.h.**

Addition of American Lotus seeds and pods to items that can be gathered/collected on WMAs. This will allow those people who wish to legally harvest and consume American lotus seeds and pods to do so.

h. Damage to or removal of trees, shrubs, hard mast (including but not limited to acorns and pecans), wild plants, non-game wildlife (including reptiles and amphibians) or any species of butterflies, skippers or moths is prohibited without a permit from the LDWF. Gathering and/or removal of American lotus (*grande volée*, *Nelumbo lutea*) seeds and pods, soft fruits, mushrooms and berries shall be limited to five gallons per person per day.





### **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.1.o**

Prohibition on the use of unmanned aircraft on WMAs. This is to prohibit the harassment of hunters and wildlife.

o. Operation of drones **or unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV)** on WMAs is prohibited.



### **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.1.p**

Prohibition on public operation of WMA water control structures.

**p. Operating, modifying, tampering with or altering any water control structures on WMAs is prohibited.**



## LAC 76:XIX.111.G.2.b

- Requirement that all users of WMA must possess a WMA Self-Clearing Permit for all activities while on the WMA. This is being proposed as the SCP app makes check in/check out accessible to everyone and allows LDWF to collect user and harvest data.
- Addition of ability to utilize electronic SCP through the LDWF SCP app or the Internet/Web Portal.
- Removal of the 72 hour SCP check out capability for those persons that are camping or that have camps adjacent to the WMA. This is proposed since there are permit kiosks at every camping area and the SCP app should remedy any persons who may have to drive to a kiosk to obtain an SCP. This will help LDWF collect user and harvest data.



## LAC 76:XIX.111.G.2.b

b. Self-Clearing Permits. A self-clearing permit is required for all activities (hunting, fishing, hiking, bird watching, sightseeing, etc.) on WMAs ~~unless otherwise specified~~. The self-clearing permit will consist of two portions: check in, check out. On WMAs where self-clearing permits are required, all persons must either check in/out electronically through the LDWF WMA Self-Clearing Permit app/Internet Web Portal or obtain a WMA self-clearing permit from an information station. Users may check-in one day in advance of use. Users that check in by electronic means are required to possess proof of check in and must check out within 24 hours. The If utilizing paper SCP from an information station, check in portion must be completed and put in a permit box before each day's activity on the day of the activity (except if hunting from a private camp adjacent to the WMA being hunted or if camping on the WMA, users need only to check in once during any 72 hour period). Users may check in one day in advance of use. The check-out portion must be carried by each person while on the WMA and must be completed and put in a permit box immediately upon exiting the WMA, or within 72 hours after checking in if hunting from a private camp adjacent to the WMA being hunted or if camping on the WMA.



### **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.3.i**

Change in daytime daily bag limit from 1 to 2 for raccoon and opossum on WMAs and allowing the ability to harvest coons during any open season. This will allow hunters the potential to harvest more coons and opossums if hunting during legal daylight shooting hours and is a change in when this activity can occur as current regulation only allows for coon harvest during rabbit season.

i. Raccoon Hunting. A licensed hunter may take raccoon or opossum, ~~one~~ **two** per person per day, during daylight hours only, during the open ~~rabbit~~ **hunting** season **in progress** on WMAs.



### **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.9.f**

Addition of airboats as an allowable vehicle on Maurepas Swamp WMA pursuant to RS:56:109.4. This is to make sure that LAC 76 does not contradict the legislation passed by Rep. Schexnayder that allows airboat usage on Maurepas Swamp WMA on designated airboat trails.

f. Airboats, aircraft, personal water craft, "mud crawling vessels" (commonly referred to as crawfish combines which use paddle wheels for locomotion) and hover craft are prohibited on all WMAs and refuges, except type A personal water craft, model year 2003 and beyond, which are eight feet in length and greater, may be operated within WMAs from April 1 until the Monday of Labor Day weekend, from sunrise to sunset only, and except personal water craft allowed on designated portions of Alexander State Forest WMA year-round, **except airboats allowed on Maurepas Swamp WMA pursuant to RS 56:109.4.**



### **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.9.p**

Addition of language for posted no wake zones and clarification of no wake. This is to eliminate erosion caused by boat wakes on coastal WMAs and should not impact users other than that they will have to travel slower

p. No wake zones. Operation of vessels beyond bare steerage speed (the slowest speed a vessel can travel while allowing the operator to maintain directional control of the vessel) in posted no wake zones is prohibited.



### **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.9.q**

Addition of language that clarifies where electric bicycles can be operated. This is being proposed to limit conflict with users.

q. Electric bicycles are restricted to designated roads and trails



## **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.10.c**

Prohibition of commercial fishing on Wonder Lake on Pointe-Aux-Chenes WMA. This is to eliminate conflicts between commercial users and recreational users on the WMA.

c. Commercial Fishing. Permits are required of all commercial fishermen using Grassy Lake, Pomme de Terre and Spring Bayou WMAs. Drag seines (except minnow and bait seines) are prohibited except experimental bait seines allowed on Dewey Wills WMA north of LA 28 in Diversion Canal. Commercial fishing is prohibited during regular waterfowl seasons on Grand Bay, Silver Lake and Lower Sunk Lake on Richard K. Yancey WMA. Commercial fishing is prohibited on Salvador/Timken, Pointe-aux-Chenes, and Russell Sage WMAs except commercial fishing on Pointe-aux-Chenes is allowed in Cut Off Canal ~~and Wonder Lake~~.



## **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.c** **Atchafalaya Delta WMA**

Requirement that SCP is required for all users. This is being proposed to help the department collect user and harvest data. Only deer and feral hog hunters were previously required to use SCP. Now, all users will have to check in and out.

c. Atchafalaya Delta. Self-clearing permit required for all activities. deer hunting, feral hog hunting and tent camping only.



## **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.d**

### **Attakapas WMA**

- Requirement that SCP is required for all users. This is being proposed to help the department collect user and harvest data. Only hunters were previously required to use SCP. Now, all users will have to check in and out.
  - Removal of turkey season on WMA. This is due to unsuitable habitat on the WMA and no turkey has been reported harvested in several years.
- d. Attakapas. Area closed to all except youth deer hunters when the youth deer season is open. **Self-clearing permits required for hunters only.**
- ii. Turkey: **opening day of statewide season for 9 days, except season will open for 10 days when statewide season opens on Good Friday. Closed**

## **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.i.**

### **Biloxi WMA**

Requirement that SCP is required for all users. This is being proposed to help the department collect user and harvest data. An SCP permit was not previously required. Users will have to check in and out now.

- i. Biloxi. **Self-Clearing permits required for all activities not required**



## **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.p.ii**

### **Dewey Wills WMA**

Elimination of Turkey lottery. This is due to unsuitable habitat and declining turkey population along with low public use.

ii. Turkey: **Closed**

~~(a). General Lottery: opening day of statewide season for 2 days, 2nd Sat. of April for 2 days.~~



## **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.q.iii**

### **Elbow Slough WMA**

Addition of Crawfishing to allowable activities. This will add additional opportunity.

iii. **Crawfishing: March-July. Limit: 100 lbs per person per day. Recreational Crawfishing only. No traps or nets left overnight.**



## **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.r**

### **Elm Hall WMA**

Requirement that SCP is required for all users. This is being proposed to help the department collect user and harvest data. An SCP permit was previously required only for hunters. All users will have to check in and out now.

- r. Elm Hall. ~~Self-clearing permits required for hunters only.~~



## **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.s**

### **Floy Ward McElroy WMA**

Change in language for BOW hunt to occur after youth hunts instead of before. The hunts were established for youth hunting so we are proposing this to give them the best opportunity to harvest a deer.

- (c). Beyond Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) Lottery Deer Hunt: any weekend ~~prior~~ after to youth lottery hunts





**LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.t.i.c**  
**Fort Polk WMA**

Removal of mandatory deer check requirement for Sunday following Thanksgiving Day. This is due to low utilization by the public on this day and should have no effect on users.

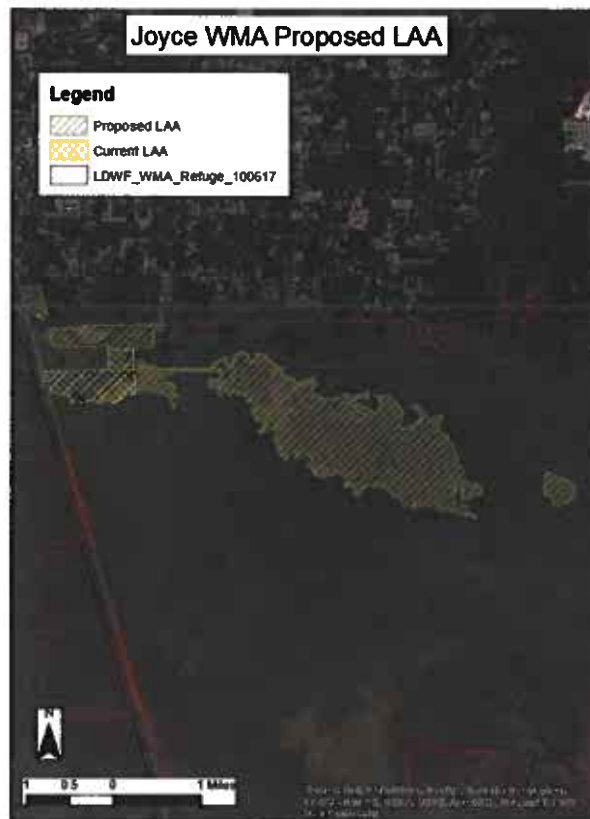
(c). Firearms Either-Sex: last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, and Fri. after Thanksgiving day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. mandatory deer check, Sun. self-clearing permit, mandatory deer check.



**LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.x**  
**Joyce WMA**

Expansion of the limited access area. This is due to damage to the marsh habitat occurring by users "buffaloing" potholes with surface drives/mud motors.





## **LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.y** **Lake Boeuf WMA**

- Requirement that SCP is required for all users. This is being proposed to help the department collect user and harvest data. An SCP permit was not previously required. Users will have to check in and out now.
- Change when all other hunting ends from noon to legal shoot times which makes it consistent with other WMAs

y. Lake Boeuf. Self-clearing permit required for all activities. Self-clearing permit available at Theriot Canal boat landing off LA 308. Hunting until 12 p.m. (noon) for all game, except deer may be hunted until one-half hour after sunset.



**LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.ff**  
**Pass-A-Loutre WMA**

Requirement that SCP is required for all users. This is being proposed to help the department collect user and harvest data. An SCP permit was not previously required. Users will have to check in and out now.

ff. Pass-A-Loutre. Self-clearing permit required for all activities, deer, feral hog hunting and camping only.



**LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.hh.i.c**  
**Peason Ridge WMA**

Removal of mandatory deer check requirement for Sunday following Thanksgiving Day. This is due to low utilization by the public on this day and should have no effect on users.

(c). Firearms Either-Sex: last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, and Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. mandatory deer check, Sun. self-clearing permit, mandatory deer check



## LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.ii Pointe-Aux-Chenes WMA

- Requirement that SCP is required for all users. This is being proposed to help the department collect user and harvest data. An SCP permit was not previously required. Users will have to check in and out now.
- Prohibition of all nighttime activities. This is being done to minimize littering and illegal activities.
- Limit on the number of drop nets for crabbing on the WMA. This is to eliminate user conflicts and provide additional recreational fishing opportunity.
- Change in the closing time of waterfowl hunting from noon to 2 pm, making it consistent with other WMAs.

ii. Pointe-Aux-Chenes. All nighttime activities prohibited ~~EXCEPT fishing adjacent to the road side of Island Road~~. Possession of more than one daily limit of fish/crab/shrimp while on the WMA is prohibited. ~~Nighttime use of vessels to access any other areas of the WMA, other than the immediate roadside of Island Road is prohibited. Self-clearing permit required for deer and feral hog hunting only except required for all activities on Point Farm Unit.~~ Self-clearing permits available at Grand Bayou Boat Launch and at Point Farm gate behind Montegut Middle School. ~~Hunting until 12 p.m. (noon) on all game except for youth lottery deer hunts. Trapping is allowed only by written agreement with LDWF, Coastal and Non-Game Resources Division~~

iii. Waterfowl: same as outside ~~except closes at 2 pm~~

ix. Crabs may be taken only through the use of hand lines or nets; however, none are to remain set overnight. ~~No drop net is allowed to be left unattended at any time. A maximum of 12 drop nets may be possessed/attended per boat or vehicle.~~

## LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.kk Richard K. Yancey WMA

Reduction of 7 days to the turkey season. This is being proposed to increase/stabilize a declining turkey population.

ii. Turkey: ~~opening day of statewide season for 16 days except season will open for 17 days when statewide season opens Good Friday. Opening day of statewide season for 9 days except season will open for 10 days when statewide season opens on Good Friday.~~



**LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.oo**  
**Salvador/Timken WMA**

- Requirement that SCP is required for all users. This is being proposed to help the department collect user and harvest data.
- Removal of noon closure for hunting.

oo. Salvador/Timken. Self-clearing permit required for all activities deer, feral hog, and all activities permitted during the experimental nighttime activity season. Permits available at Pier 90, Bayou Gauche, Bayou Segnette State Park landings, and at Airboat Adventures in Lafitte. Hunting until 12 p.m. (noon) only for all game, except deer and experimental nighttime activity season.



**LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.qq.ii**  
**Sherburne WMA**

Reduction of the number of open Turkey days from 5 to 3. This due to declining population of turkey in this area.

ii. Turkey: Mon. after 3rd Sat. of April for 3 days.



## LAC 76:XIX.111.G.17.vv

### Tunica Hills WMA

- Closure of WMA when turkey lottery hunts are taking place. This is to eliminate user conflicts and for safety reasons.
- Addition of 1 day with mandatory deer check. This is being done to collect more biological data.
- Reduction in the number of primitive either sex days from 17 to 5 and total number of days from 17 to 12.

vv. Tunica Hills. Area Closed: Sat. before opening day of statewide turkey season except youth turkey hunters and all weekends in April except turkey hunters.

(c). Primitive Firearms. Fri. after Thanksgiving day for 17 days. Fri. after Thanksgiving day mandatory deer check, remainder of season self-clearing permit. Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. Mandatory Deer Check, Sun. Self-Clearing Permit, either-sex. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 9 days, EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. In Dec. then it will open on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Dec., the initial Sat. and Sun. either-sex and mandatory deer check, the remaining 7 days bucks only self-clearing permit.

General and WMA Turkey Hunting Regulations (LAC  
76:XIX.113)



## **LAC 76:XIX.113**

Prohibition on the use of motorized turkey decoys.

A. General Regulations. Only gobblers (male turkeys) may be taken. Taking of hen (female) turkeys, including bearded hens, is prohibited; still hunting only. Use of dogs, electronic calling devices, **motorized decoys** and live decoys is illegal.

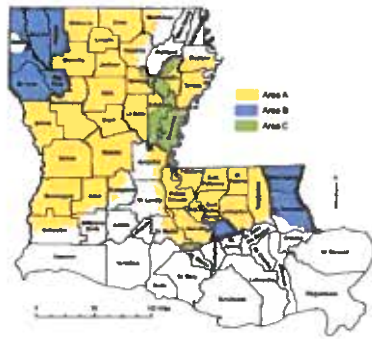


## **LAC 76:XIX.113**

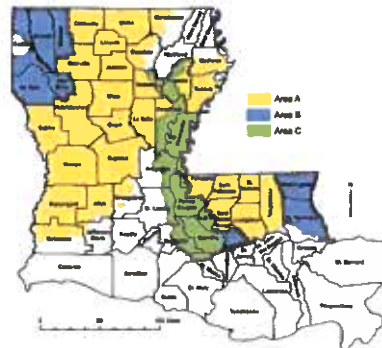
Removal of all of Pointe Coupee and West Baton Rouge parishes and parts of Avoyelles, Iberville, St. Landry and Upper St Martin parishes from Turkey Area A to Turkey Area C which results in a reduction of 14 days of hunting opportunity. This is proposed due to declining populations and low recruitment in the Upper Atchafalaya Basin.



## Current Turkey Areas



## Proposed Turkey Areas



**Migratory Bird Seasons, Regulations, and Bag Limits  
(LAC 76:XIX.117)**





**LAC 76:XIX.117.A.**  
**Waterfowl Season Dates**  
**Ducks, Coots & Mergansers**

**Coastal Zone:**

**Nov. 9-10 (youth only)**

**Nov. 16-Dec. 8**

**Dec. 21-Jan. 26**



**LAC 76:XIX.117.A.**  
**Waterfowl Season Dates**  
**Ducks, Coots & Mergansers**

**West Zone:**

**Nov. 9 (youth only)**

**Nov. 16-Dec. 8**

**Dec. 21-Jan.26**

**Feb 1 (youth only)**



**LAC 76:XIX.117.A.**  
**Waterfowl Season Dates**  
**Ducks, Coots & Mergansers**

East Zone:

Nov. 16 (youth only)

Nov. 23-Dec. 8

Dec. 14-Jan. 26

Feb. 1 (youth only)



**LAC 76:XIX.117.A.**  
**Waterfowl Bag Limits**

Change in daily bag limit for Pintail from two to one.

- Mandated by the USFWS.

Daily bag limit on ducks is 6 and may include no more than 4 mallards (no more than 2 of which may be females), 2 canvasbacks, 1 mottled duck, 1 black duck, 3 wood ducks, 3 scaup, 2 redheads, and 2 1 pintails.

Daily bag limit on coots is 15.

Daily bag limit on mergansers is 5, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers.

Merganser limits are in addition to the daily bag limit for ducks.



**LAC 76:XIX.117.A.**  
**Waterfowl Bag Limits**  
**Light Geese (Snow, Blue & Ross) & White-**  
**Fronted**

Daily bag limit on Light Geese  
(snow, blue, and ross') is 20.

Daily bag limit on White-Fronted Geese is 2.

•North Zone:

Nov. 2-Dec.8

Dec. 21-Feb. 9

•South Zone:

Nov. 2-Dec. 8

Dec. 21-Feb.9



**LAC 76:XIX.117.A.**  
**Waterfowl Bag Limits**  
**Conservation Order for Light Geese**

No bag or possession limits

•North Zone:

Dec. 9 - 13

Feb. 10 – Mar. 15

•South Zone:

Dec. 9 - 13

Feb. 10 – Mar. 15



**LAC 76:XIX.117.A.**  
**Waterfowl Bag Limits**  
**Canada Geese**

**Daily Bag limit is 1.**

•**North Zone:**

**Nov. 2-Dec.8**

**Dec. 21-Jan. 31**

•**South Zone:**

**Nov. 2-Dec. 8**

**Dec. 21-Jan. 31**

**Questions?**



## Public Comments

- Public Comments will be accepted through 9:00 pm, March 2, 2019.
- Public comment will be accepted at LWFC monthly meetings from now through March 2 or may be submitted directly to Tommy Tuma, LDWF Wildlife Division, PO Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, phone 225-765-2349 or via email [ttuma@wlf.la.gov](mailto:ttuma@wlf.la.gov)



## Public Hearings

- § **Feb. 25** (Monday) at 6 p.m. at the Ponchatoula High School Library, 19452 Hwy 22, Ponchatoula
- § **Feb. 26** (Tuesday) at 6 p.m. at the LDWF Field Office, 200 Dulles Drive, Lafayette
- § **Feb. 27** (Wednesday) at 6 p.m. Minden, LA, at the LDWF Minden Office, 9961 Hwy 80, Minden
- § **Feb. 28** (Thursday) at 6 p.m. At the LDWF Monroe office, 368 CenturyLink Drive, Monroe, LA
- § **March 1** (Friday) at 6 p.m. at the Alexandria Convention Hall, 915 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Alexandria
- § **March 2** (Saturday) at 6 p.m. at the LSU Ag Center Building, 7101 Gulf Highway, **Lake Charles**



## **NOTICE OF INTENT**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

Notice is hereby given that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission proposes to amend the cervid carcass importation ban, the general and wildlife management area rules and regulations for the 2019-2020 season, the resident game hunting season for the 2019-2021 hunting seasons, the general and wildlife management area rules and regulations for the turkey season, the turkey hunting areas, and seasons, and bag limits for the 2020 turkey season, and the migratory bird seasons, regulations, and bag limits for the 2019-2021 hunting season.

#### **Title 76**

### **WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

#### **Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds**

##### **Chapter 1. Wild Quadrupeds**

##### **§119. Cervid Carcass Importation**

###### **A. Definitions**

Cervid – any animal of the family *Cervidae* including, but not limited to, white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, moose, caribou, fallow deer, axis deer, sika deer, red deer and reindeer.

B. No person shall import, transport or possess any cervid carcass or part of a cervid carcass originating outside of Louisiana, or from Louisiana lands east of the Mississippi River in East Carroll, Madison, Tensas and Concordia parishes, except: for: meat that is cut and wrapped; meat that has been boned out; quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached, antlers, clean skull plates with antlers, cleaned skulls without tissue

attached, capes, tanned hides, finished taxidermy mounts and cleaned cervid teeth. Any and all bones shall be disposed of in a manner where its final destination is at an approved landfill or equivalent. Said rule shall be effective March 1, 2017.

C. Approved parts or deboned meat transported from other states must be legally possessed from the state it was taken. Approved parts and deboned meat from other states must contain a possession tag with the hunter's name, out-of-state license number (if required), address, species, date and location (county and state) of harvest. All cervids transported into or through this state in violation of the provisions of this ban shall be seized and disposed of in accordance with Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and Department of Wildlife and Fisheries rules and regulations.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with the Louisiana Constitution, Article IX, Section 7, R.S. 56:1, R.S. 56:5, R.S. 56:6(10), (13) and (15), R.S. 56:20, R.S. 56:112, R.S. 56:116.1 and R.S. 56:171 et seq.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 43:344 (February 2017), LR .

## **Part XIX. Hunting and WMA Regulations**

### **Chapter 1. Resident Game Hunting Season**

#### **§101. General**

A. The resident game hunting season regulations have been adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. A complete copy of the regulations pamphlet may be obtained from the department.

**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 21:707 (July 1995), amended LR 22:585 (July 1996), LR 23:871 (July 1997), LR 24:1324 (July 1998), LR 25:1290 (July 1999), LR 26:1506 (July 2000), LR 27:1061 (July 2001), LR 28:1615 (July 2002), LR 29:1122 (July 2003), LR 30:1493 (July 2004), LR 31:1627 (July 2005), LR 32:1253 (July 2006), LR 33:1399 (July 2007), LR 34:1447 (July 2008), LR 35:1278 (July 2009), LR 36:1580 (July 2010), LR 37:2206 (July 2011), LR 38:1747 (July 2012), LR 39:2307 (August 2013), LR 40:1534 (August 2014), LR 41:958 (May 2015), LR 42:1107 (July 2016), LR 44:1273 (July 2018), LR .

**§103. Resident Game Birds and Animals**

- A. Shooting Hours—one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- B. Consult Regulation Pamphlet for Seasons or Specific Regulations on Wildlife

Management Areas or Specific Localities

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Quail	OPENS: 3rd Saturday of November CLOSES: Last Day of February	10	30
Rabbit and Squirrel	OPENS: 1st Saturday of October CLOSES: Last Day of February	8	24



Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Squirrel*	OPENS: 1st Saturday of May for 23 days	3	9
Deer <del>2018-2020</del> <del>2019-2020</del>	See Schedule	1 antlered and 1 antlerless (when legal)	Deer Areas 1,2,3,5,6,7,8, and 9 6/season (not to exceed 3 antlered deer or 4 antlerless deer). Deer Areas 4 and 10 limit 3/season (not to exceed 2 antlered or 2 antlerless deer). <del>Deer Area 10 limit 3/season (not to exceed 2 antlered or 2 antlerless deer).</del>

\*NOTE: Spring squirrel season is closed on the Kisatchie National Forest, National Wildlife Refuges, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers property. Some state wildlife management areas will be open, check WMA season schedule.

C. Deer Hunting Schedule ~~2018-2019~~ ~~2019-2020~~

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
1	OPENS: 1st day of Oct.	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Nov.	OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
	CLOSES:  Last day of  Jan.	CLOSES: Fri. after 2nd Sat. of Nov.  OPENS: Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan.  CLOSES: Last day of Jan.	EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3rd Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Dec.  EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1st Sat. of Dec.  OPENS: Mon. after 1st Sat. of Jan.  CLOSES: next to last Sun. of Jan.	there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1st Sat. of Dec.  CLOSES: Sun. after 1st Sat. of Jan.
2	OPENS: 1st day of Oct.  CLOSES:  Last day of  Jan.	OPENS: Next to last Sat. of Oct.  CLOSES: Fri. before last Sat. of Oct.	OPENS: Last Sat. of Oct.  CLOSES: Tues. before 2nd Sat. of Dec. in odd numbered years and on	OPENS: Wed. before the 2nd Sat. of Dec. in odd numbered years and on Thurs. during even numbered years

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
		<p>OPENS: Mon. after the last day of Modern Firearm Season in Jan.</p> <p>CLOSES: After 7 days.</p>	<p>Wed. during even numbered years</p> <p>EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Tues. in odd numbered years or Wed. during even numbered years before the 1st Sat. of Dec.</p>	<p>EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the Wed. before the 1st Sat. of Dec. on odd years and Thurs. during even numbered years</p> <p>CLOSES: 40 days after opening in odd numbered years or 39 days after opening in even numbered years</p>

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
3	OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Sept.  CLOSES:  Jan. 15	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Oct.  CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct.  <del>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</del>  <del>CLOSES: Fri. before 1st Sat. of Dec.</del>  <del>OPENS: Mon. after last day of Modern Firearm Season</del>  <del>CLOSES: After 7 days</del>	OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Oct.  CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving Day  <del>OPENS: 1st Sat. of Dec.</del>  <del>CLOSES: After 37 days</del>	<del>OPENS: 1st Sat. of Dec.</del>  <del>CLOSES: After 37 days.</del>  <del>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</del>  <del>CLOSES: After 35 days</del>
4	OPENS: 1st day of Oct.  CLOSES:  Last day of Jan.	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. after 2nd Sat. of Nov.  OPENS: Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan.  CLOSES: Last day of Jan.	OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day  EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3rd Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Dec.  EXCEPT when there are	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1st Sat. of Dec.  CLOSES: Sun. after 1st Sat. of Jan.

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
			5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1st Sat. of Dec.  OPENS: Mon. after 1st Sat. of Jan.  CLOSES: next to last Sun. of Jan.	
5	OPENS: 1st day of Oct.  CLOSES: Feb. 15 (1st 15 days are BUCKS ONLY)	(All Either Sex except as noted.)  OPENS: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. before 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Nov.  OPENS: Mon. after next to last Sun. of Jan.  Bucks Only  CLOSES: Last day of Jan.	OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day  EXCEPT when there are  5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3rd Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Dec.  EXCEPT when there are  5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1st Sat. of	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1st Sat. of Dec.  CLOSES: Next to last Sun. of Jan. (BUCKS ONLY UNLESS EITHER SEX SEASON IS IN PROGRESS)

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
			<p>Dec. (BUCKS ONLY UNLESS EITHER SEX SEASON IS IN PROGRESS) OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. In Nov., then it will open on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Nov. CLOSES: Sun. of the same weekend. EITHER SEX: OPENS: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day. CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving day. (EITHER SEX)</p>	<p>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. CLOSES: Sun. after 2nd Sat. of Dec. (EITHER SEX) OPENS: Sat. before Christmas. CLOSES: Sun. before Christmas (EITHER SEX).</p>
6	OPENS: 1st day of Oct.	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Nov.	OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
	<p>CLOSES:</p> <p>Feb. 15</p> <p>(1st 15 days are BUCKS ONLY)</p>	<p>CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Nov.</p> <p>OPENS: Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan.</p> <p>CLOSES: Last day of Jan.</p>	<p>EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3rd Sat. of Nov.</p> <p>CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Dec.</p> <p>EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1st Sat. of Dec.</p>	<p>there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1st Sat. of Dec.</p> <p>CLOSES: Next to last Sun. of Jan.</p>
7	<p>OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Sept.</p> <p>CLOSES:</p> <p>Jan. 15.</p>	<p>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Oct.</p> <p>CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct.</p> <p><del>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</del></p> <p><del>CLOSES: Fri. before 1st Sat. of Dec.</del></p>	<p>OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Oct.</p> <p><del>CLOSES: Fri. before 1st Sat. of Nov.</del></p> <p><del>OPENS: 2nd Sat of Nov.</del></p> <p>CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving</p>	<p>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</p> <p>CLOSES: After 35 days</p>

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
		<u>OPENS: Mon. after last</u> <u>day of Modern Firearm</u> <u>Season</u> <u>CLOSES: After 7 days</u>		
8	OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Sept. CLOSES: Jan. 15	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Oct. CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct. <u>OPENS: Mon. after</u> <u>Thanksgiving Day</u> <del>CLOSES: Fri. before 1st</del> <del>Sat. of Dec.</del> <u>OPENS: Mon. after last</u> <u>day of Modern Firearm</u> <u>Season</u> <u>CLOSES: After 7 days</u>	OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Oct. CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving Day.	<del>OPENS: 1st Sat. of</del> <del>Dec.</del> <u>CLOSES: After 37</u> <u>days.</u> <u>OPENS: Mon. after</u> <u>Thanksgiving Day</u> <u>CLOSES: After 35</u> <u>days</u>



Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
9	<p>OPENS: 1st day of Oct.</p> <p>CLOSES: Feb. 15 (1st 15 days are BUCKS ONLY)</p>	<p><del>OPENS: Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan.</del></p> <p><del>CLOSES: Last day of Jan.</del></p> <p>OPENS: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Nov.</p> <p>CLOSES: Fri. before 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Nov.</p> <p>OPENS: Mon. after next to last Sun. of Jan.</p> <p>Bucks Only</p> <p>CLOSES: Last day of Jan. Bucks Only</p>	<p>OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day</p> <p>EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Nov.</p> <p>CLOSES: Fri. before 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec.</p> <p>EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Dec. (BUCKS ONLY UNLESS EITHER SEX SEASON IS IN PROGRESS)</p> <p>OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day</p> <p>EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it</p>	<p>OPENS: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Dec.</p> <p>CLOSES: Next to last Sun. of Jan. (BUCKS ONLY UNLESS EITHER SEX SEASON IS IN PROGRESS)</p> <p>OPENS: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec.</p> <p>CLOSES: Sun. after 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. (EITHER SEX)</p> <p>OPENS: Sat. before Christmas.</p> <p>CLOSES: Sun. before Christmas.</p>

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
			<p>will open on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Nov.</p> <p>CLOSES: Sunday of the same weekend.</p> <p>EITHER SEX</p> <p>OPENS: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day.</p> <p>CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving day.</p> <p>(EITHER SEX)</p>	
10	<p>OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Sept.</p> <p>CLOSES: Jan. 15</p>	<p>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Oct.</p> <p>CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct.</p> <p><del>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</del></p> <p><del>CLOSES: Fri. before 1st Sat. of Dec.</del></p> <p><del>OPENS: Mon. after last day of Modern Firearms</del></p> <p><del>CLOSES: after 7 days</del></p>	<p>OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Oct.</p> <p><del>CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving Day</del></p> <p><del>OPENS: 1st Sat. of Dec.</del></p> <p><del>CLOSES: After 37 days</del></p> <p><del>CLOSES: After 1<sup>st</sup> Sun. of Jan.</del></p>	

D. Deer Hunting Schedule ~~2019-2020~~ 2020-2021

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
1	OPENS: 1st day of Oct.  CLOSES:  Last day of Jan.	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. after 2nd Sat. of Nov.  OPENS: Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan.  CLOSES: Last day of Jan.	OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day  EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3rd Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Dec.  EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1st Sat. of Dec.  OPENS: Mon. after 1st Sat. of Jan.  CLOSES: next to last Sun. of Jan.	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1st Sat. of Dec.  CLOSES: Sun. after 1st Sat. of Jan.
2	OPENS: 1st day of Oct.	OPENS: Next to last Sat. of Oct.	OPENS: Last Sat. of Oct.	OPENS: Wed. before the 2nd Sat. of Dec. in odd numbered years

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
	CLOSES:  Last day of  Jan.	CLOSES: Fri. before last Sat. of Oct.  OPENS: Mon. after the last day of Modern Firearm Season in Jan.  CLOSES: After 7 days.	CLOSES: Tues. before 2nd Sat. of Dec. in odd numbered years and on Wed. during even numbered years  EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Tues. in odd numbered years or Wed. during even numbered years before the 1st Sat. of Dec.	and on Thurs. during even numbered years  EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the Wed. before the 1st Sat. of Dec. on odd years and Thurs. during even numbered years  CLOSES: 40 days after opening in odd numbered years or 39 days after opening in even numbered years
3	OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Sept.  CLOSES:  Jan. 15	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Oct.  CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct.  <del>OPENS: Mon. after</del> <del>Thanksgiving Day</del>	OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Oct.  CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving Day	<del>OPENS: 1st Sat. of</del> <del>Dec.</del>  <del>CLOSES: After 37</del> <del>days.</del>

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
		<p><u>CLOSES: Fri. before 1st Sat. of Dec.</u></p> <p><u>OPENS: Mon. after last day of Modern Firearm Season</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: After 7 days</u></p>	<p><u>OPENS: 1st Sat. of Dec.</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: After 37 days</u></p>	<p><u>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</u></p> <p><u>CLOSES: After 35 days</u></p>
4	<p>OPENS: 1st day of Oct.</p> <p>CLOSES: Last day of Jan.</p>	<p>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Nov.</p> <p>CLOSES: Fri. after 2nd Sat. of Nov.</p> <p>OPENS: Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan.</p> <p>CLOSES: Last day of Jan.</p>	<p>OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day</p> <p>EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3rd Sat. of Nov.</p> <p>CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Dec.</p> <p>EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1st Sat. of Dec.</p>	<p>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1st Sat. of Dec.</p> <p>CLOSES: Sun. after 1st Sat. of Jan.</p>

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
			OPENS: Mon. after 1st Sat. of Jan.  CLOSES: next to last Sun. of Jan.	
5	OPENS: 1st day of Oct.  CLOSES: Feb. 15  (1st 15 days are BUCKS ONLY)	(All Either Sex except as noted.)  OPENS: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. before 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Nov.  OPENS: Mon. after next to last Sun. of Jan. Bucks Only  CLOSES: Last day of Jan.	OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day  EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Dec.  EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1st Sat. of Dec. (BUCKS ONLY UNLESS EITHER SEX	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1st Sat. of Dec.  CLOSES: Next to last Sun. of Jan. (BUCKS ONLY UNLESS EITHER SEX SEASON IS IN PROGRESS)  OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec.  CLOSES: Sun. after 2nd Sat. of Dec.  (EITHER SEX)

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
			<p>SEASON IS IN PROGRESS)</p> <p>OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Nov.</p> <p>CLOSES: Sun. of the same weekend.</p> <p>EITHER SEX:</p> <p>OPENS: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day.</p> <p>CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving day.</p> <p>(EITHER SEX)</p>	<p>OPENS: Sat. before Christmas.</p> <p>CLOSES: Sun. before Christmas.</p>
6	<p>OPENS: 1st day of Oct.</p> <p>CLOSES: Feb. 15</p>	<p>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Nov.</p> <p>CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Nov.</p>	<p>OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day</p> <p>EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then</p>	<p>OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in</p>



Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
	(1st 15 days are BUCKS ONLY)	OPENS: Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan.  CLOSES: Last day of Jan.	it will open on the 3rd Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Dec.  EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1st Sat. of Dec.	Nov., then it will open on the 1st Sat. of Dec.  CLOSES: Next to last Sun. of Jan.
7	OPENS: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Sept.  CLOSES:  Jan. 15.	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Oct.  CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct.  <del>OPENS: Mon. after</del> <del>Thanksgiving Day</del> <del>CLOSES: Fri. before 1<sup>st</sup></del> <del>Sat. of Dec.</del> <del>OPENS: Mon. after last</del> <del>day of Modern Firearm</del> <del>Season</del> <del>CLOSES: After 7 days</del>	OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Oct.  <del>CLOSES: Fri. Before</del> <del>1st Sat. of Nov.</del> <del>OPENS: 2nd Sat of</del> <del>Nov.</del>  CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving	OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day  CLOSES: After 35 days

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
8	OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Sept.  CLOSES:  Jan. 15	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Oct.  CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct.  <del>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</del>  <del>CLOSES: Fri. before 1st Sat. of Dec.</del>  <del>OPENS: Mon. after last day of Modern Firearm Season</del>  <del>CLOSES: After 7 days</del>	OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Oct.  CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving Day.	<del>OPENS: 1st Sat. of Dec.</del>  <del>CLOSES: After 37 days.</del>  <del>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</del>  <del>CLOSES: After 35 days</del>
9	OPENS: 1st day of Oct.  CLOSES:  Feb. 15  (1st 15 days are BUCKS ONLY)	<del>OPENS: Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan.</del>  <del>CLOSES: Last day of Jan.</del>  OPENS: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. before 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Nov.  OPENS: Mon. after next to last Sun. of Jan.	OPENS: Sat. before Thanksgiving Day  EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3rd Sat. of Nov.  CLOSES: Fri. before 2nd Sat. of Dec.  EXCEPT when there	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 1st Sat. of Dec.  CLOSES: Next to last Sun. of Jan. (BUCKS ONLY UNLESS EITHER SEX

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
		CLOSES: Last day of Jan. Bucks Only	are 5 Sats. in Nov. and then it will close on the Fri. before the 1st Sat. of Dec. (BUCKS ONLY UNLESS EITHER SEX SEASON IS IN PROGRESS) OPENS: Sat before Thanksgiving Day EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Nov., then it will open on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Nov. CLOSES: Sunday of the same weekend. EITHER SEX: OPENS: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day.	SEASON IS IN PROGRESS) OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Dec. CLOSES: Sun. after 2nd Sat. of Dec. (EITHER SEX) OPENS: Sat. before Christmas. CLOSES: Sun. before Christmas

Area	Archery	Primitive Firearms (All Either Sex Except as Noted)	Still Hunt (No dogs allowed)	With or Without Dogs
			CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving day. (EITHER SEX)	
10	OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Sept.  CLOSES:  Jan. 15	OPENS: 2nd Sat. of Oct.  CLOSES: Fri. before 3rd Sat. of Oct.  <del>OPENS: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day</del>  <del>CLOSES: Fri. before 1st Sat. of Dec.</del>  <u>OPENS: Mon. after last day of Modern Firearms</u>  <u>CLOSES: After 7 days</u>	OPENS: 3rd Sat. of Oct.  <del>CLOSES: Sun. after Thanksgiving Day</del>  <u>OPENS: 1st Sat. of Dec.</u>  <u>CLOSES: After 37 days</u>  <u>CLOSES: After 1<sup>st</sup> Sun. of Jan.</u>	

- E. Farm-raised white-tailed deer on supplemented shooting preserves:
  - 1. archery, firearm, primitive firearms—October 1-January 31 (either-sex).
- F. Exotics on supplemented shooting preserves:
  - 1. either sex—no closed season.
- G. Spring squirrel hunting:
  - 1. season dates—opens 1st Saturday of May for 23 days;
  - 2. closed areas:
    - a. Kisatchie National Forest, national wildlife refuges, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers property and all WMAs except as provided in Paragraph 3 below;
  - 3. wildlife management area schedule—opens first Saturday of May for nine days on all WMAs except Fort Polk, Peason Ridge, Camp Beauregard, Pass-a-Loutre and Salvador. Dogs are allowed during this season for squirrel hunting;
  - 4. limits—daily bag limit is three and possession limit is nine.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:109(B) and R.S. 56:141(C).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 21:707 (July 1995), amended LR 22:585 (July 1996), LR 23:871 (July 1997), LR 24:1324 (July 1998), LR 25:1290 (July 1999), repromulgated LR 25:1526 (August 1999), LR 26:1506 (July 2000), LR 27:1061 (July 2001), LR 28:1615 (July 2002), LR 29:1122 (July 2003), repromulgated LR 29:1521 (August 2003), amended LR 30:1494 (July 2004), LR 31:1627 (July 2005), LR 32:1254 (July 2006), LR 33:115 (January 2007), LR 33:1399 (July 2007), LR 34:1447 (July 2008), LR 35:1278 (July 2009), LR 35:2856 (December 2009), LR 36:1580 (July 2010), LR 37:2207 (July 2011), LR 38:1747 (July 2012),

LR 39:2307 (August 2013), LR 40:1535 (August 2014), LR 41:958 (May 2015), LR 42:1108 (July 2016), LR 43:1420 (July 2017), LR 44:1273 (July 2018), LR .

## **§111. General and Wildlife Management Area Hunting Rules and Regulations**

### **A. Hunting Seasons and Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Regulations**

1. The rules and regulations contained within this digest have been officially approved and adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission under authority vested by sections 115 and 116 of title 56 of the *Louisiana Revised Statutes* of 1950 and are in full force and effect in conjunction with all applicable statutory laws. The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) has the authority to close or alter seasons in emergency situations in order to protect fish and wildlife resources.

2. Pursuant to section 40.1 of title 56 of the *Louisiana Revised Statutes* of 1950, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has adopted monetary values which are assigned to all illegally taken, possessed, injured or destroyed fish, wild birds, wild quadrupeds and other wildlife and aquatic life. Anyone taking, possessing, injuring or destroying fish, wild birds, wild quadrupeds and other wildlife and aquatic life shall be required to reimburse the LDWF a sum of money equal to the value of the wildlife illegally taken, possessed, injured or destroyed. This monetary reimbursement shall be in addition to any and all criminal penalties imposed for the illegal act.

### **B. Resident Game Birds and Animals**

1. Shooting hours: one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

### **C. Other Season Dates**

1. Turkey. Please refer to turkey regulations.

2. Raccoon and Opossum. No closed season. Raccoon and opossum can be taken at night by one or more licensed hunters with one or more dogs and one .22 caliber or smaller rimfire firearm. A licensed hunter may take raccoon or opossum with .22 caliber or smaller rimfire firearm, .36 caliber or smaller muzzleloader rifle or shotgun during daylight hours. Hunting from boats or motor vehicles is prohibited. No bag limit for nighttime or daytime raccoon or opossum hunting during the open trapping season except on certain WMAs as listed. The remainder of the year, the raccoon and opossum bag limit for daytime or nighttime is two per person per day or night. No one who hunts raccoons or opossums as prescribed above shall pelt during the closed trapping season nor sell skins or carcasses of raccoons and opossums taken during the open trapping season unless he is the holder of a valid trapping license which shall be required in addition to his basic hunting license. Pelting or selling carcasses is illegal during closed trapping season.

3. Nutria. On WMAs and private property nutria may be taken recreationally by licensed hunters from September 1 through the last day of February, during legal shooting hours by any legal hunting method with a daily limit of five. Except nutria may be taken on Atchafalaya Delta, Salvador/Timken, Pointe-Aux-Chenes and Pass-a-Loutre WMAs from September 1 to March 31. When taken with a shotgun, non-toxic shot must be used. On WMAs during waterfowl seasons, nutria may be taken only with the use of shotguns with shot no larger than F steel, and during gun deer seasons, anyone taking nutria must display 400 square inches of "hunter orange" and wear a "hunter orange" cap or hat. Recreational nutria hunters must remove each nutria carcass in whole condition from the hunting area, except that nutria may be gutted. Possession of detached nutria parts, including nutria tails, by recreational hunters is illegal. Nutria harvested recreationally may not be pelted nor may such nutria or any nutria parts from

recreationally taken nutria be sold, including the tail. Trespassing upon private property for the purpose of taking nutria or other furbearing animals is punishable by fines and possible jail time (R.S. 56:265). The Coastwide Nutria Control Program is a separate program and is in no way related to the nutria recreational season. For questions on the Coastwide Nutria Control Program, call the **New Iberia office (337) 373-0032 Lafayette Field Office, (337) 735-8672.**

4.      **Blackbirds and Crows.** The season for crows shall be September 1 through January 1 with no limit; however crows, blackbirds, cowbirds and grackles may be taken year round during legal shooting hours if they are depredating or about to depredate upon ornamentals or shade trees, agricultural crops, livestock, wildlife, or when concentrated in such numbers as to cause a health hazard. Louisiana has determined that the birds listed above are crop depredators and that crows have been implicated in the spread of the West Nile virus in humans. As described in 50 CFR Part 21, non-toxic shot must be used for the take of crows, blackbirds, cowbirds and grackles under the special depredation order. In addition an annual report has to be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for those that participate in the take of these species.

5.      **Pheasant.** Open concurrently with the quail season; no limit.

6.      **Falconry.** Special permit required. Resident and migratory game species may be taken except turkeys. Seasons and bag limits are the same as for statewide and WMA regulations. Refer to LAC 76:V.301 for specific falconry rules.

7.      **Licensed Hunting Preserve, October 1-April 30, Pen-Raised Birds Only.**  
No limit entire season. Refer to LAC 76:V.305 for specific hunting preserve rules.

8.      **Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP).** Refer to LAC 76:V.111 for specific DMAP rules. Deer management assistance tags must be in the possession of the hunter in order to harvest an antlerless deer. The tag shall be attached through the hock in such a



manner that it cannot be removed before the deer is transported (including those taken on either-sex days and those taken with approved archery equipment or primitive firearms). Failure to do so is a violation of R.S. 56:115. Deer harvested on property enrolled in DMAP do not count in the season or daily bag limit for hunters when legally tagged with DMAP tags. Failing to follow DMAP rules and regulations may result in suspension and cancellation of the program on those lands involved.

9. Farm Raised White-tailed Deer and Exotics on Licensed Supplemented Shooting Preserves

a. Definitions

*Exotics*—for purposes of this Section means any animal of the family *Bovidae* (except the *Tribe Bovini* [cattle]) or *Cervidae* which is not indigenous to Louisiana and which is confined on a supplemented hunting preserve. *Exotics* shall include, but are not limited to, fallow deer, red deer, elk, sika deer, axis deer, and black buck antelope.

*Hunting*—in its different tenses and for purposes of this Section means to take or attempt to take, in accordance with R.S. 56:8.

*Same as Outside*—for purposes of this Section means hunting on a supplemented hunting preserve must conform to applicable statutes and rules governing hunting and deer hunting, as provided for in title 56 of the *Louisiana Revised Statutes* and as established annually by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

*Supplemented Hunting Preserve*—for purposes of this Section means any enclosure for which a current farm-raising license has been issued by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) with concurrence of the LDWF and is authorized in writing by the LDAF and LDWF to permit hunting.

*White-Tailed Deer*—for purposes of this Rule means any animal of the species *Odocoileus virginianus* which is confined on a supplemented hunting preserve.

b. Seasons:

i. farm-raised white-tailed deer: consult the regulations pamphlet;

ii. exotics: year round.

c. Methods of take:

i. white-tailed deer: same as outside;

ii. exotics: exotics may be taken with traditional bow, compound bow and crossbow or any bow drawn, held or released by mechanical means; shotguns not larger than 10 gauge, loaded with buckshot or rifled slug; handguns and rifles no smaller than .22 caliber centerfire; or muzzleloading rifles or pistols, .44 caliber minimum, or shotguns 10 gauge or smaller, all of which must load exclusively from the muzzle or cap and ball cylinder, using black powder or an approved substitute only, and using ball or bullet projectile, including sabot bullets only and other approved primitive firearms.

d. Shooting hours:

i. white-tailed deer: same as outside;

ii. exotics: one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

e. Bag limit:

i. farm-raised white-tailed deer: same as outside;

ii. exotics: no limit.

f. Hunting licenses:

- i. white-tailed deer: same as outside;
- ii. exotics: no person shall hunt any exotic without possessing

a valid basic and big game hunting license.

g. Tagging. White-tailed deer and exotics: each animal shall be tagged in the left ear or left antler immediately upon being killed and before being moved from the site of the kill with a tag provided by the LDAF. The tag shall remain with the carcass at all times.

10. Bobcat. No person other than the holder of a valid big game license may take or possess bobcat, except licensed trappers who may take or possess bobcat during the open trapping season. A big game licensee shall only take bobcat during the time period from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset with approved archery equipment, shotgun, muzzleloader or centerfire firearm. A big game licensee shall not take more than one bobcat per calendar year. This regulation applies only to property that is privately owned, state WMAs, Kisatchie National Forest, and the Bayou des Ourses, Bodcau, Bonnet Carre, and Indian Bayou tracts owned by the Corps of Engineers, but does not apply to state wildlife refuges, or other federally owned refuges and lands. On state WMAs and Kisatchie National Forest, the take of bobcat is restricted to those open seasons on the WMAs which require the respective legal weapons noted above.

#### D. Hunting—General Provisions

1. A basic resident or non-resident hunting license is required of all persons to hunt, take, possess or cause to be transported by any other person any wild bird or quadruped. See information below for exceptions.

2. No person born on or after September 1, 1969, shall hunt unless that person has first been issued a certificate of satisfactory completion of a firearm and hunter education course approved by the department, except any active or veteran member of the United States armed services or any POST-certified law enforcement officer. Application for the exemption shall be filed in person at the LDWF main office building in the city of Baton Rouge. A person under 16 years of age may hunt without such certificate if he/she is accompanied by and is under the direct supervision of a person who was born before September 1, 1969, and has a valid hunting license or who is 18 years of age or older and has proof of successful completion of a firearm and hunter education course approved by the department.

3. A big game license is required in addition to the basic hunting license to hunt, take, possess or cause to be transported any deer. A separate wild turkey license is required in addition to the basic hunting license and the big game license to hunt, take, possess or cause to be transported any turkey.

4. Taking game quadrupeds or birds from aircraft or participating in the taking of deer with the aid of aircraft or from automobiles or other moving land vehicles is prohibited.

5. Methods of Taking Resident Game Birds and Quadrupeds

a. It is illegal to intentionally feed, deposit, place, distribute, expose, scatter, or cause to be fed, deposited, placed, distributed, exposed, or scattered raw sweet potatoes to wild game quadrupeds.

b. Use of a traditional bow, compound bow and crossbow or any bow drawn, held or released by mechanical means or a shotgun not larger than a 10 gauge fired from the shoulder shall be legal for taking all resident game birds and quadrupeds. Also, the use of a

handgun, rifle and falconry (special permit required) shall be legal for taking all game species except turkey. It shall be illegal to hunt or take squirrels or rabbits at any time with a breech-loaded rifle or handgun larger than .22 caliber, any centerfire firearm, or a muzzleloading firearm larger than .36 caliber. It shall be legal to hunt or take squirrels, rabbits, and outlaw quadrupeds with air rifles.

c. Still hunting is defined as stalking or stationary stand hunting without the use of dog(s). Pursuing, driving or hunting deer with dogs is prohibited when or where a still hunting season or area is designated, and will be strictly enforced. Shotguns larger than 10 gauge or capable of holding more than three shells shall be prohibited. Plugs used in shotguns must be incapable of being removed without disassembly. Refer to game schedules contained within these regulations for specific restrictions on the use of firearms and other devices.

d. No person shall take or kill any game bird or wild quadruped with a firearm fitted with an infrared sight, laser sight, or except as provided in R.S. 56:116(A)(8) any sighting device which projects a beam of light to the target or otherwise electronically illuminates the target, or device specifically designed to enhance vision at night [R.S. 56:116.1(B)(3)].

6. Nuisance Animals. Landowners or their designees may remove beaver and nutria causing damage to their property without a special permit. Water set traps and firearms may be used to remove beaver; nutria may be removed by any means except that nutria cannot be taken by the use of headlight and gun between the hours of sunset and sunrise. With a special permit issued by the LDWF, beavers may be taken between one-half hour after official sunset to one-half hour before official sunrise for a period of three consecutive calendar evenings from the

effective date of the permit. Any nuisance beaver or nutria trapped or shot outside open trapping season cannot be pelted or sold. A trapping license is required to sell or pelt nuisance beavers or nutria taken during open trapping season. Squirrels found depredating commercial crops of pecans may be taken year-round by permit issued by the LDWF. This permit shall be valid for 30 days from the date of issuance. Contact the local region office for details.

7. Threatened and endangered species: Louisiana pearl shell (mussel), sea turtles, gopher tortoise, ringed sawback turtle, brown pelican, bald eagle, peregrine falcon, whooping crane, Eskimo curlew, piping plover, interior least tern, ivory-billed woodpecker, red-cockaded woodpecker, Bachman's warbler, West Indian manatee, Florida panther, pallid sturgeon, Gulf sturgeon, Atwater's greater prairie chicken, whales and red wolf. Taking or harassment of any of these species is a violation of state and federal laws.

8. Outlaw Quadrupeds. Holders of a legal hunting license may take coyotes, feral hogs, and armadillos year round during legal daylight shooting hours. The running of coyotes with dogs is prohibited in all turkey hunting areas during the open turkey season. Coyote hunting is restricted to chase only when using dogs during still hunting segments of the firearm and archery only seasons for deer. Foxes are protected quadrupeds and may be taken only with traps by licensed trappers during the trapping season. Remainder of the year "chase only" allowed by licensed hunters.

9. Nighttime Take of Nuisance Animals and Outlaw Quadrupeds. On private property, the landowner, or his lessee or agent with written permission from the landowner and the landowner's contact information in his possession, may take outlaw quadrupeds (coyotes, armadillos and feral hogs), nutria, or beaver during the nighttime hours year round. from one-half hour after official sunset on the last day of February to one-half hour after official sunset the

~~last day of August of that same year.~~ Such taking may be with or without the aid of artificial light, infrared or laser sighting devices, or night vision devices. In addition, pursuant to R.S. 56:116(D)(3) any person who is authorized to possess a firearm suppressor may use a firearm fitted with a sound suppressor when taking outlaw quadrupeds, nutria, or beaver. Any person attempting to take outlaw quadrupeds under the provisions of the paragraph, within 24 hours prior to the attempted taking, shall notify the sheriff of the parish in which the property is located and the LDWF Enforcement Division by calling (800) 442-2511 of their intention to attempt to take outlaw quadrupeds under the provision of this Paragraph.

10. Hunting and/or Discharging Firearms on Public Roads. Hunting, standing, loitering or shooting game quadrupeds or game birds while on a public road or public road right-of-way is prohibited. Hunting or the discharge of firearms on roads or highways located on public levees or within 100 feet from the centerline of such levee roads or highways is prohibited. Spot lighting or shining from public roads is prohibited by state law. Hunting from all public roads and public road rights-of-way is prohibited.

11. Tags. Any part of the deer or wild turkey divided shall have affixed thereto the name, date, address and big game license number of the person killing the deer or wild turkey and the sex of that animal. This information shall be legibly written in pen or pencil, on any piece of paper or cardboard or any material, which is attached or secured to or enclosing the part or parts. On lands enrolled in DMAP, deer management assistance tags must be attached and locked through the hock of antlerless deer, (including those taken with approved archery and primitive firearms, and those antlerless deer taken on either-sex days) in a manner that it cannot be removed, before the deer is moved from the site of the kill.

12. Sex Identification. Positive evidence of sex identification, including the head or sex organs, shall remain on any deer taken or killed within the state of Louisiana, or on all turkeys taken or killed so long as such deer or turkey is kept in camp or field, or is in route to the domicile of its possessor, or until such deer or turkey has been stored at the domicile of its possessor or divided at a cold storage facility and has become identifiable as food rather than as wild game.

E. General Deer Hunting Regulations

1. Prior to hunting deer, all deer hunters, regardless of age or license status, must obtain deer tags and have in possession when hunting deer. Immediately upon harvesting a deer, the hunter must tag the deer with the appropriate carcass tag and document the kill on the deer tag license. Within 72 hours of the kill, the hunter must validate the kill. Hunters harvesting deer on DMAP lands can validate deer per instructions by LDWF using the DMAP harvest data sheets. Hunters on WMAS can validate deer during mandatory deer check hunts, when deer check stations are in operation. Hunters may validate deer by calling the validation toll free number or using the validation website.

2. ~~2018-2019~~ 2019-2020 Season. One antlered and one antlerless deer per day (when legal) except on Kisatchie National Forest, Indian Bayou Area owned by the US Army Corps of Engineers, and some federal refuges (check refuge regulations) where the daily limit shall be one deer per day. Antlerless deer may be harvested during entire deer season on private lands (all seasons included) except as specified in deer hunting schedule. This does not apply to public lands (WMAs, national forest lands, and federal refuges) which will have specified either-sex days.



3. ~~2019-2020~~ 2020-2021 Season. One antlered and one antlerless deer per day (when legal) except on Kisatchie National Forest, Indian Bayou area owned by the US Army Corps of Engineers, and some federal refuges (check refuge regulations) where the daily limit shall be one deer per day. Antlerless deer may be harvested during entire deer season on private lands (all seasons included) except as specified in deer hunting schedule. This does not apply to public lands (WMAs, national forest lands, and federal refuges) which will have specified either-sex days.

4. A legal antlered deer is a deer with at least one visible antler of hardened bony material, broken naturally through the skin. Killing antlerless deer is prohibited except where specifically allowed.

5. *Either-sex deer* is defined as male or female deer. Taking or possessing spotted fawns is prohibited.

6. It is illegal to hunt or shoot deer with firearms smaller than .22 caliber centerfire or a shotgun loaded with anything other than buckshot or slug. Handguns may be used for hunting.

7. Taking game quadrupeds or birds from aircraft, participating in the taking of deer with the aid of aircraft or from automobiles or other moving land vehicles is prohibited.

8. Still hunting is defined as stalking or stationary stand hunting without the use of dog(s). Pursuing, driving or hunting deer with dogs or moving vehicles, including ATVs, when or where a still hunting season or area is designated, is prohibited and will be strictly enforced. The training of deer dogs is prohibited in all still hunting areas during the gun still hunting and archery only season. Deer hunting with dogs is allowed in all other areas having open deer seasons that are not specifically designated as still hunting only. A leashed dog may be

used to trail and retrieve wounded or unrecovered deer during legal hunting hours. Any dog used to trail or retrieve wounded or unrecovered deer shall have on a collar with owner's name, address, and phone number. In addition, a dog may be used to trail and retrieve unrecovered deer after legal hunting hours. ; however, no person accompanying a dog after legal hunting hours may carry a firearm of any sort.

9. It is illegal to take deer while deer are swimming or while the hunter is in a boat with motor attached in operating position; however the restriction in this Paragraph shall not apply to any person who has lost one or more limbs.

10. Areas not specifically designated as open are closed.

11. It is unlawful to use or possess scents or lures that contain natural deer urine or other bodily fluids while taking, attempting to take, attracting or scouting wildlife.

~~11~~ 12. Primitive Firearms Season: Still Hunt Only. Specific WMAs will also be open, check WMA schedule for specific details. Primitive firearms license is required for resident hunters between the ages of 16 and 59 inclusive and non-residents 16 years of age and older. Either-sex deer may be taken in all deer hunting areas except as otherwise specified.

a. Legal Firearms for Primitive Firearms Season

i. Rifles or pistols, .44 caliber minimum, or shotguns 10 gauge or smaller, all of which must load exclusively from the muzzle, use black powder or approved substitute only, take ball, shot, or bullet projectile only, including sabot bullets, and may be fitted with magnified scopes.

ii. Single shot, breech loading rifles or single shot, breech loading pistols, .35 caliber or larger, having an exposed hammer, that use metallic cartridges

loaded either with black powder or modern smokeless powder, and may be fitted with magnified scopes.

iii. Single shot, breech loading shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller, having an exposed hammer, loaded with buckshot or slug.

iv. Youths 17 or younger may hunt deer with any legal weapon during the primitive firearms season in each deer hunting area.

~~12~~ 13. Archery Season. Archery license required for resident bow hunters between the ages of 16 and 59 inclusive and non-residents 16 years of age and older. Either-sex deer may be taken in all areas open for deer hunting except when a bucks only season is in progress for gun hunting, and except in areas 6 and 9 from October 1-15. Archers must conform to the bucks only regulations. Either-sex deer may be taken on WMAs at any time during archery season except when bucks only seasons are in progress on the respective WMA. Also, archery season restricted on Atchafalaya Delta, Salvador, Lake Boeuf, and Pointe-aux-Chenes WMAs (see schedule).

a. Bow and Arrow Regulations. Traditional bow, compound bow and crossbow or any bow drawn, held or released by mechanical means will be a legal means of take for all properly licensed hunters. Hunting arrows for deer must have well-sharpened broadhead points. Bow and arrow fishermen must have a sport fishing license and may not carry any arrows with broadhead points unless a big game season is in progress.

i. It is unlawful:

(a). to have in possession or use any poisoned or drugged arrow or arrows with explosive tips;

(b). to hunt deer with a bow having a pull less than 30 pounds;

(c). to hunt with a bow or crossbow fitted with an infrared, laser sight, electrically-operated sight or device specifically designed to enhance vision at night (does not include non-projecting red dot sights) [R.S. 56:116.1.B.(4)].

**13 14.** Hunter Orange or blaze pink. Any person hunting any wildlife during the open gun deer hunting season and possessing buckshot, slugs, a primitive firearm, or a centerfire rifle shall display on his head, chest and/or back a total of not less than 400 square inches of “hunter orange” or “blaze pink”. Persons hunting on privately owned land may wear a hunter orange or blaze pink cap or hat in lieu of the 400 square inches. These provisions shall not apply to persons hunting deer from elevated stands on property that is privately owned or to archery deer hunters hunting on lands where firearm hunting is not allowed by agreement of the landowner or lessee. However, anyone hunting deer on such lands where hunting with firearms is allowed shall be required to display the 400 square inches or a hunter orange or blaze pink cap or hat while walking to and from elevated stands. While a person is hunting from an elevated stand, the 400 square inches or cap or hat may be concealed. Warning: deer hunters are cautioned to watch for persons hunting other game or engaged in activities not requiring “hunter orange” or “blaze pink”.

**14 15.** Physically Challenged Season on Private Lands (Either-Sex): first Saturday of October for two days. Restricted to individuals with physically challenged hunter permit.

**15 16.** Youth and Honorably Discharged Veterans Season on Private Lands (Either-Sex). Areas 1, 4, 5, 6 and 9: last Saturday of October for seven days; area 2: second

Saturday of October for seven days; and areas 3, 7, 8 and 10: fourth Saturday of September for seven days. Youths 17 or younger only. Youths must be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older. Youths must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for the youth. Adults may not possess a firearm. Youths may possess only one firearm while hunting. Legal firearms are the same as described for deer hunting. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times. Except properly licensed youths 16-17 years old and youths 12 years old or older who have successfully completed a hunter safety course may hunt without a supervising adult. One of the following must be carried by veterans while hunting:

- a. Louisiana OMV issued U.S. Veterans Driver's License; or
- b. U.S. Department of Defense Form 214 or one of the following

DD\_214 equivalents:

- i. pre DD 214 era documents (1941\_1950):
  - (a). WE AGO (war department adjutant general) forms,  
to include WD AGO 53, WD AGO 55, WD AGO 53\_55;
  - (b). JAVPERS (naval personnel) discharge documents,  
to include NAVPERS 553, NAVMC78PD, NAVCG 553;
- ii. National Personnel Records Center NPRC "statement of  
service," issued as a result of a destroyed discharge record during the 1973 National Archives  
fire;

iii. National Guard/Air National Guard must have NGB\_22  
with 6 or more years of service.

F. Description of Areas, ~~2018-2020~~ 2019-2021

1. Area 1

a. All of the following parishes are open: Concordia, East Carroll,  
Franklin, Madison, Richland, Tensas, West Carroll.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Catahoula—east of Boeuf River to Ouachita River, east of  
Ouachita River from its confluence with Boeuf River to LA 8, south and east of LA 8  
southwesterly to parish line;

ii. Grant—east of US 165 and south of LA 8;

iii. LaSalle—south of a line beginning where Little River  
enters Catahoula Lake following the center of the lake eastward to Old River then to US 84, east  
of US 84 northward to LA 8, south of LA 8 eastward to parish line;

iv. Ouachita—south of US 80 and east of Ouachita River, east  
of LA 139 from Sicard to junction of LA 134, south of LA 134 to Morehouse line at Wham  
Bake;

v. Rapides—east of US 165 and north of Red River.

c. Still hunting only in all or portions of the following parishes:

i. Catahoula—south of Deer Creek to Boeuf River, east of  
Boeuf and Ouachita Rivers to LA 8 at Harrisonburg, west of LA 8 to LA 913, west of LA 913  
and LA 15 to Deer Creek;

ii. East Carroll—all;

iii. Franklin—all;

iv. Morehouse—east of US 165 (from Arkansas state line) to Bonita, south and east of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), east of LA 830-4 to Bastrop, east of LA 139 at Bastrop to junction of LA 593, east and north of LA 593 to Collinston, east of LA 138 to junction of LA 134 and south of LA 134 to Ouachita line at Wham Brake;

v. Ouachita—south of US 80 and east of Ouachita River, east of LA 139 from Sicard to junction of LA 134, south of LA 134 to Morehouse line at Wham Bake;

vi. Richland—all;

vii. West Carroll.

2. Area 2

a. All of the following parishes are open:

i. Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Caldwell, Claiborne, DeSoto, Jackson, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Union, Webster, Winn;

ii. except: Kisatchie National Forest which has special regulations. Caney, Corney, Middlefork tracts of Kisatchie have the same regulations as area 2, except still hunting only for deer.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Allen—north of US 190 from parish line westward to Kinder, east of US 165 from Kinder northward to LA 10 at Oakdale, north of LA 10 from Oakdale westward to the parish line;

ii. Avoyelles—that portion west of I-49;

iii. Catahoula—west of Boeuf River to Ouachita River, west of Ouachita River from its confluence with Boeuf River to LA 8, north and west of LA 8 southwesterly to parish line;

iv. Evangeline—all except the following portions: east of I-49 to junction of LA 29, east of LA 29 south of I-49 to Ville Platte, and north of US 167 east of Ville Platte;

v. Grant—all except that portion south of LA 8 and east of US 165;

vi. Jefferson Davis—north of US 190;

vii. LaSalle—north of a line beginning where Little River enters Catahoula Lake, following the center of the lake eastward to Old River then to US 84, west of US 84 northward to LA 8, north of LA 8 eastward to parish line;

viii. Morehouse—west of US 165 (from Arkansas state line) to Bonita, north and west of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), west of LA 830-4 to Bastrop, west of LA 139 to junction of LA 593, west and south of LA 593 to Collinston, west of LA 138 to junction of LA 134 and north of LA 134 to Ouachita Parish line at Wham Brake;

ix. Ouachita—all except south of US 80 and east of Ouachita River, east of LA 139 from Sicard to junction of LA 134, south of LA 134 to Morehouse Parish line at Wham Brake;

x. Rapides—all except north of Red River and east of US 165, south of LA 465 to junction of LA 121, west of LA 121 and LA 112 to Union Hill, and north of LA 113 from Union Hill to Vernon Parish line, and that portion south of Alexandria between Red



River and US 167 to junction of US 167 with I-49 at Turkey Creek exit, east of I-49 southward to parish line;

xi. Vernon—north of LA 10 from the parish line westward to LA 113, south of LA 113 eastward to parish line. Also the portion north of LA 465 west of LA 117 from Kurthwood to Leesville and north of LA 8 from Leesville to Texas state line.

c. Still hunting only in all or portions of the following parishes:

i. Claiborne and Webster—Caney, Corney and Middlefork tracts of Kisatchie National Forest (see Kisatchie National Forest regulations);

ii. Ouachita—east of Ouachita River;

iii. Rapides—west of US 167 from Alexandria southward to I-49 at Turkey Creek exit, west of I-49 southward to parish line, north of parish line westward to US 165, east of US 165 northward to US 167 at Alexandria. North of LA 465 from Vernon Parish line to LA 121, west of LA 121 to I-49, west of I-49 to LA 8, south and east of LA 8 to LA 118 (Mora Road), south and west of LA 118 to Natchitoches Parish line;

iv. Vernon—east of Mora-Hutton Road from Natchitoches Parish line to Hillman Loop Road, south and east of Hillman Loop Road to Comrade Road, south of Comrade Road to LA 465, east and north of LA 465 to Rapides Parish line.

3. Area 3

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Acadia—north of I-10;

ii. Allen—west of US 165 and south of LA 10;

iii. Beauregard—east of LA 27 from the parish line northward to DeRidder and north of US 190 westward from DeRidder to Texas state line;

- iv. Calcasieu—east of LA 27 from Sulphur northward to the parish line, and north of I-10;
- v. Jefferson Davis—north of I-10 and south of US 190;
- vi. Lafayette—west of I-49 and north of I-10;
- vii. Rapides—south of LA 465 to junction of LA 121, west of LA 121 and LA 112 to Union Hill and north of LA 113 from Union Hill to Vernon Parish line;
- viii. St. Landry—west of US 167;
- ix. Vernon— east of LA 113 to Pitkin, south of LA 10 to Allen Parish line, west and north of LA 113, south of LA 465, east of LA 117 from Kurthwood to Leesville, and south of LA 8 from Leesville to Texas state line.

b. Still hunting only for portions of the following parishes:

- i. Acadia—north of I-10;
- ii. Allen—south of US 190 and west of LA 113;
- iii. Beauregard—west of LA 113 and east of LA 27 from the parish line northward to DeRidder and north of US 190 westward from DeRidder to Texas state line;
- iv. Calcasieu—east of LA 27 from Sulphur northward to the parish line, and north of I-10;
- v. Jefferson Davis—north of I-10 and south of US 190;
- vi. Lafayette—west of I-49 and north of I-10;
- vii. Rapides—south of LA 465 to junction of LA 121, west of LA 121 and LA 112 to Union Hill and north of LA 113 from Union Hill to Vernon Parish line;
- viii. St. Landry—west of US 167;

ix. Vernon—west and north of LA 113, south of LA 465, east of LA 117 from Kurthwood to Leesville, and south of LA 8 from Leesville to Texas state line.

4. Area 4

a. All of St. Helena and Washington Parishes are open.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

- i. East Baton Rouge—all except that portion west of I-110 and west of US 61;
- ii. East Feliciana—east of US 61;
- iii. Livingston—north of I-12;
- iv. Tangipahoa—north of I-12;
- v. St. Tammany—all except that portion south of I-12, west of LA 1077 to LA 22, south of LA 22 to Tchefuncte River, west of Tchefuncte River southward to Lake Pontchartrain.

c. Still hunting only in all or portions of the following parishes:

i. East Feliciana and East Baton Rouge—east of Thompson Creek from the Mississippi state line to LA 10, north of LA 10 from Thompson Creek to LA 67 at Clinton, west of LA 67 from Clinton to Mississippi state line, south of Mississippi state line from LA 67 to Thompson Creek. Also that portion of East Baton Rouge Parish east of LA 67 from LA 64 north to Parish Line, south of Parish Line from LA 64 eastward to Amite River, west of Amite River southward to LA 64, north of LA 64 to LA 37 at Magnolia, east of LA 37 northward to LA 64 at Indian Mound, north of LA 64 from Indian Mound to LA 67. Also, that portion of East Feliciana Parish east of LA 67 from parish line north to LA 959, south of LA 959

east to LA 63, west of LA 63 to Amite River, west of Amite River southward to parish line, north of parish line westward to LA 67;

ii. St. Helena—north of LA 16 from Tickfaw River at Montpelier westward to LA 449, east and south of LA 449 from LA 16 at Pine Grove northward to Rohner Road, south of Rohner Road to LA 1045, south of LA 1045 to the Tickfaw River, west of the Tickfaw River from LA 1045 southward to LA 16 at Montpelier;

iii. Tangipahoa—that portion of Tangipahoa Parish north of LA 10 from the Tchefuncte River to LA 1061 at Wilmer, east of LA 1061 to LA 440 at Bolivar, south of LA 440 to the Tchefuncte River, west of the Tchefuncte River from LA 440 southward to LA 10;

iv. Washington and St. Tammany—east of LA 21 from the Mississippi state line southward to the Bogue Chitto River, north of the Bogue Chitto River from LA 21 eastward to the Pearl River Navigation Canal, east of the Pearl River Navigation Canal southward to the West Pearl River, north of the West Pearl River from the Pearl River Navigation Canal to Holmes Bayou, west of Holmes Bayou from the West Pearl River northward to the Pearl River, west of the Pearl River from Holmes Bayou northward to the Mississippi state line, south of the Mississippi state line from the Pearl River westward to LA 21. Also, that portion of Washington Parish west of LA 25 from the Mississippi state line southward to the Bogue Chitto River, then west of the Bogue Chitto River to its junction with the St. Tammany Parish line, north of the St. Tammany Parish line to the Tangipahoa Parish line, east of the Tangipahoa Parish line to the Mississippi state line, south of the Mississippi state line to its junction with LA 25;

5. Area 5

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

- i. St. Martin Parish south of I-10 and east of the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and west of the East Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee;
- ii. Iberville Parish—south of I-10 and west of the East Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee;
- iii. Iberia Parish—east of the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and west of the East Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee;
- iv. St. Mary Parish—east of the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee;
- v. high water benchmark closure. Deer hunting in those portions of Iberville and St. Martin parishes south of I-10, west of the East Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee, east of the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee, and north of Alligator Bayou and Bayou Sorrel will be closed when the river stage of the Atchafalaya River reaches 18 feet msl at Butte LaRose, and will reopen when the river stage recedes to 17 feet msl at Butte LaRose. Deer hunting in those portions of Iberville, St. Martin, St. Mary and Iberia parishes west of the East Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee, east of the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and south of Alligator Bayou and Bayou Sorrel will be closed when the river stage of the Atchafalaya River reaches 15 feet msl at Butte LaRose, and will reopen when the river stage recedes to 14 feet msl at Butte LaRose.

6. Area 6

- a. All of West Feliciana and Pointe Coupee Parish is open.
- b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:
  - i. Avoyelles—all except that portion west of I-49;

- ii. East Baton Rouge—that portion west of I-110 and west of US 61;
- iii. East Feliciana—west of US 61;
- iv. Evangeline—that portion east of I-49 to junction of LA 29, east of LA 29 south of I-49 to Ville Platte and north of US 167 east of Ville Platte;
- v. Iberville—all north of I-10, and that portion south of I-10 at the Atchafalaya Basin protection levee south to Upper Grand River, then north of Upper Grand River to the Intracoastal Canal at Jack Miller, then west of the Intracoastal Canal northward to Bayou Plaquemine, then north of Bayou Plaquemine to the Mississippi River;
- vi. Lafayette—north of I-10 and east of I-49;
- vii. Rapides—south of Alexandria between Red River and US 167 to the junction of US 167 with I-49 at Turkey Creek Exit, east of I-49 southward to parish line;
- viii. St. Landry—east of US 167;
- ix. St. Martin—north of I-10;
- x. West Baton Rouge—north I-10.
- c. Still hunting only in all or portions of the following parishes:
  - i. Avoyelles—north of LA 1 from Simmesport westward to LA 115 at Marksville, east of LA 115 from Marksville northward to the Red River near Moncla, south and west of the Red River to LA 1 at Simmesport;
  - ii. Rapides—south of Alexandria between Red River and US 167 to the junction of US 167 with I-49 at Turkey Creek Exit, east of I-49 southward to parish line;

iii. West Feliciana—west of Thompson Creek to Illinois-Central Railroad, north of Illinois-Central Railroad to Parish Road #7, east of Parish Road #7 to the junction of US 61 and LA 966, east of LA 966 from US 61 to Chaney Creek, south of Chaney Creek to Thompson Creek.

7. Area 7

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

- i. Iberia—south of LA 14 and west of US 90;
- ii. St. Mary—all except that portion north of US 90 from Iberia Parish line eastward to Wax Lake Outlet, east of Wax Lake Outlet southward to Intracoastal Waterway, north of Intracoastal Waterway eastward to the Atchafalaya River, east of the Atchafalaya River.

8. Area 8

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

- i. Beauregard—that portion west of LA 27 from parish line northward to DeRidder, south of US 190 from DeRidder to Texas state line;
- ii. Calcasieu—that portion west of LA 27 from the parish line southward to Sulphur and north of I-10 from Sulphur to the Texas state line.

9. Area 9

a. All of the following parishes are open: Ascension, Assumption, Jefferson, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, Terrebonne.

b. Portions of the following parishes are open:

- i. Iberia—east of US 90 and west of the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and east of the East Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee;
  - ii. Iberville—east of the East Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and south of Upper Grand River to the Intracoastal Canal to Bayou Plaquemines, then south of Bayou Plaquemines to the Mississippi River;
  - iii. Lafayette—south of I-10 and east of US 90;
  - iv. Livingston—south of I-12;
  - v. St. Martin—west of the Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and south of I-10. East of the East Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and south of I-10;
  - vi. St. Mary—east of US 90 from Iberia Parish line to the Wax Lake Outlet, east of Wax Lake Outlet southward to Intracoastal Waterway, north of Intracoastal Waterway eastward to the Atchafalaya River, east of the Atchafalaya River except for portion within the East and West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levees;
  - vii. St. Tammany—that portion south of I-12, west of LA 1077 to LA 22, south of LA 22 to Tchefuncte River, west of Tchefuncte River southward to Lake Pontchartrain;
  - viii. Tangipahoa—south of I-12.
- c. Still hunting only in all or portions of the following parishes:
    - i. Iberville—east of the Mississippi River;
    - ii. Plaquemines—east of the Mississippi River;
    - iii. St. Bernard—all of the parish shall be still hunting only except that portion of St. Bernard known as the spoil area between the MRGO on the east and Access Canal on the west, south of Bayou Bienvenue and north of Bayou la Loutre;



iv. St. John—south of Pass Manchac from Lake Pontchartrain to US 51, east of US 51 from Pass Manchac to LA 638 (Frenier Beach Road). North of LA 638 from US 51 to Lake Pontchartrain, west of Lake Pontchartrain from LA 638 to Pass Manchac.

10. Area 10

- a. All of Cameron and Vermillion Parishes are open.
- b. Portions of the following parishes are open:
  - i. Acadia—south of I-10;
  - ii. Calcasieu—south of I-10;
  - iii. Iberia—west of US 90 and north of LA 14;
  - iv. Jefferson Davis—south of I-10;
  - v. Lafayette—south of I-10 and west of Hwy 90.

G. WMA Regulations

1. General

a. The following rules and regulations concerning the management, protection and harvest of wildlife have been officially approved and adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in accordance with the authority provided in *Louisiana Revised Statutes* of 1950, section 109 of title 56. Failure to comply with these regulations will subject individual to citation and/or expulsion from the management area.

b. Citizens are cautioned that by entering a WMA managed by the LDWF they may be subjecting themselves and/or their vehicles to game and/or license checks, inspections and searches.

c. WMA seasons may be altered or closed anytime by the LDWF secretary in emergency situations (floods, fire or other critical circumstances).

d. Hunters may enter the WMA no earlier than 4 a.m. unless otherwise specified. Hunters must check out and exit the WMA no later than two hours after sunset, or as otherwise specified.

e. Lands within WMA boundaries will have the same seasons and regulations pertaining to baiting and use of dogs as the WMA within which the lands are enclosed; however, with respect to private lands enclosed within a WMA, the owner or lessee may elect to hunt according to the regular season dates and hunting regulations applicable to the geographic area in which the lands are located, provided that the lands are first enrolled in DMAP. Interested parties should contact the nearest LDWF region office for additional information.

f. Dumping garbage or trash on WMAs is prohibited. Garbage and trash may be properly disposed of in designated locations if provided.

g. Disorderly conduct or hunting under influence of alcoholic beverages, chemicals and other similar substances is prohibited.

h. Damage to or removal of trees, shrubs, hard mast (including but not limited to acorns and pecans), wild plants, non-game wildlife (including reptiles and amphibians) or any species of butterflies, skippers or moths is prohibited without a permit from the LDWF. Gathering and/or removal of American lotus (grande volée, *Nelumbo lutea*) seeds and pods, soft fruits, mushrooms and berries shall be limited to five gallons per person per day.

i. Burning of marshes is prohibited. Hunting actively burning marsh is prohibited.

j. Nature Trails. Trails shall be limited to pedestrians only. No vehicles, ATVs, horses, mules, bicycles, etc. allowed. Removal of vegetation (standing or down) or other natural material prohibited.

k. Deer seasons are for legal ~~buck~~ antlered deer unless otherwise specified.

l. Small game, when listed under the WMA regulations may include both resident game animals and game birds as well as migratory species of birds.

m. Oysters may not be harvested from any WMA, except that oysters may be harvested from private oyster leases and state seed grounds located within a WMA, when authorized by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and upon approval by the Department of Health and Hospitals.

n. Free ranging livestock prohibited.

o. Operation of drones or unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) on WMAs is prohibited.

p. Operating, modifying, tampering with or altering any water control structures on WMAs is prohibited.

## 2. Permits

a. A WMA hunting permit is required for persons ages 18 through 59 to hunt on WMAs.

b. Self-Clearing Permits. A self-clearing permit is required for all activities (hunting, fishing, hiking, bird watching, sightseeing, etc.) on WMAs unless otherwise specified. The self-clearing permit will consist of two portions: check in, check out. On WMAs where self-clearing permits are required, all persons must either check in/check out electronically

through the LDWF WMA Self-Clearing Permit app/Internet Web Portal or obtain a WMA self-clearing permit from an information station. Users may check in one day in advance of use. Users that check in by electronic means are required to possess proof of check in and must check out within 24 hours. The If utilizing paper Self-Clearing Permit from an information station, check in portion must be completed and put in a permit box before each day's activity, on the day of the activity (except if hunting from a private camp adjacent to the WMA being hunted or if camping on the WMA, users need only to check in once during any 72 hour period). Users may check in one day in advance of use. The check out portion must be carried by each person while on the WMA and must be completed and put in a permit box immediately upon exiting the WMA or within 72 hours after checking in if hunting from a private camp adjacent to the WMA being hunted or if camping on the WMA. No permit is required of fishers and boaters who do not travel on a WMA road and/or launch on the WMA as long as they do not get out of the boat and onto the WMA. When mandatory deer checks are specified on WMAs, hunters must check deer at a check station. When mandatory check in for deer seasons is specified on WMAs, hunters must check in at designated locations, and obtain a daily hunt permit. Self-clearing permits are not required for persons only traveling through the WMA provided that the most direct route is taken and no activities or stops take place.

c. Persons using WMAs or other LDWF administered lands for any purpose must possess one of the following: a valid wild Louisiana stamp, a valid Louisiana fishing license, or a valid Louisiana hunting license. Persons younger than 16 or older than 60 years of age are exempt from this requirement. Also Additionally, a self-clearing WMA permit, detailed above, may be required (available at most entrances to each WMA and electronically

through the LDWF WMA Self-Clearing Permit app/Internet Web Portal). Check individual WMA listings for exceptions.

3. Special Seasons

a. Youth Deer Hunt. Youths 17 or younger only. Youths must be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older. Youths must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for the youth. Adults may not possess a firearm. Youths may possess only one firearm while hunting. Legal firearms are the same as described for deer hunting. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times, except properly licensed youths and youths 12 years old or older who have successfully completed a hunter safety course may hunt without a supervising adult. Contact the appropriate region office for maps of specific hunting areas. Either-sex deer may be taken on WMAs with youth hunts. Consult the regulations pamphlet for WMAs offering youth hunts.

NOTE: Some hunts may be by pre-application lottery.

b. Youth Squirrel Hunt (on selected WMAs only). Only youths 17 or younger may hunt. Squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, hogs and opossum may be taken. No dogs allowed. All other seasons will remain open to other hunters. Youths must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. Youths must be accompanied by one adult 18 years of age or older. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for the youth. Adults may not possess a firearm. Youths

may possess only one firearm while hunting. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times, except properly licensed youths and youths 12 years old or older who have successfully completed a hunter safety course may hunt without a supervising adult. Self-clearing permits are required. Consult the regulations pamphlet for WMAs offering youth squirrel hunts.

c. Youth Mourning Dove Hunt. A youth mourning dove hunt will be conducted on specific WMAs and will follow the same regulations provided for youth deer hunts on the first or second weekend of the mourning dove season (Saturday and/or Sunday only). Consult the regulations pamphlet for WMAs offering youth mourning dove hunts.

d. Physically Challenged Season. An either-sex deer season will be held for hunters possessing a physically challenged hunter permit on WMAs during the dates specified under the individual WMA. Participants must possess a physically challenged hunter permit. Contact region office for permit application and map of specific hunting area. Consult the regulations pamphlet for WMAs offering physically challenged seasons.

e. Turkey Lottery Hunts. Hunts restricted to those persons selected by lottery. Consult the regulations pamphlet for deadlines. Contact region offices for more details.

f. Waterfowl Lottery Hunts. Hunts restricted to those persons selected by lottery. Consult the regulations pamphlet for deadline. Consult regulations pamphlet for individual WMA schedules or contact any Wildlife Division office for more details.

g. Mourning Dove Lottery Hunts. Consult regulations pamphlet for individual WMA schedules or contact any Wildlife Division office for more details.

- h. Trapping. Consult annual trapping regulations for specific dates.

All traps must be run daily. Traps with teeth are illegal. Hunter orange required when a deer gun season is in progress.

- i. Raccoon Hunting. A licensed hunter may take raccoon or opossum, one two per person per day, during daylight hours only, during the open rabbit hunting season in progress on WMAs.

*Nighttime Experimental*—all nighttime raccoon hunting where allowed is with dogs only. There is no bag limit. Self-clearing permit required.

- j. Sport Fishing. Sport fishing, crawfishing and frogging are allowed on WMAs when in compliance with current laws and regulations except as otherwise specified under individual WMA listings.

- k. Small Game Emphasis Areas. Specially designated areas on certain WMAs will allow small game hunting with dogs, confined to that specific area when the remainder of the WMA is restricted to still hunt only. Additionally, off season training of rabbit and bird dogs may be allowed on some of the small game emphasis areas. Small game emphasis areas are offered on Big Colewa Bayou, Bayou Macon, Bayou Pierre, Boeuf, Dewey W. Wills, Marsh Bayou, Pomme de Terre, Richard K. Yancey, Russell Sage, Sandy Hollow, Sherburne, Tunica Hills and Walnut Hill WMAs.

#### 4. Firearms

- a. Firearms having live ammunition in the chamber, magazine, cylinder or clip when attached to firearms and crossbows cocked in the ready position are not allowed in or on vehicles, boats under power, motorcycles, ATVs, UTVs, ATCs or in camping

areas on WMAs. Firearms may not be carried on any area before or after permitted hours except in authorized camping areas and except as may be permitted for authorized trappers.

b. Firearms and bows and arrows are not allowed on WMAs during closed seasons except on designated shooting ranges or as permitted for trapping and except as allowed pursuant to R.S. 56:109(C) and R.S. 56:1691. Bows and broadhead arrows are not allowed on WMAs except during deer archery season, turkey season or as permitted for bowfishing. Active and retired law enforcement officers in compliance with POST requirements, federal law enforcement officers and holders of Louisiana concealed handgun permits or permit holders from a reciprocal state who are in compliance with all other state and federal firearms regulations may possess firearms on WMAs provided these firearms are not used for any hunting purpose.

c. Encased or broken down firearms and any game harvested may be transported through the areas by the most direct route provided that no other route exists except as specified under WMA listing.

d. Loaded firearms are not allowed near WMA check stations.

e. The following cannot be carried onto any WMA except during modern and primitive firearm deer seasons and during special shotgun season for feral hogs on Atchafalaya Delta, Pass-a-Loutre, Pointe-aux-Chenes and Salvador WMAs (consult regulations pamphlet for specific WMA regulations):

- i. centerfire rifles;
- ii. centerfire break-action and centerfire bolt-action handguns;
- iii. centerfire scoped handguns;
- iv. shotgun slugs or shot larger than BB lead or F steel.



f. Target shooting and other forms of practice shooting are prohibited on WMAs except as otherwise specified.

g. Discharging of firearms on or across, or hunting from designated roads, ATV/UTV trails, nature trails, hiking trails, and their rights-of-way is prohibited during the modern firearms and primitive firearms deer seasons.

## 5. Methods of Taking Game

a. Moving deer or hogs on a WMA with organized drives and standers, drivers or making use of noises or noise-making devices is prohibited.

b. On WMAs the daily limit shall be one antlered deer and one antlerless deer (when legal) per day, not to exceed the Deer Area limit for the Deer Area that a WMA is contained within (all segments included) by all methods of take.

c. Baiting, hunting over bait, or possession of bait is prohibited on all WMAs, EXCEPT bait may be kept in a vehicle traversing a WMA road or parked on a WMA road. Bait is defined as any substance used to attract game via ingestion.

d. During mandatory deer check hunts, deer may not be skinned nor have any external body parts removed including but not limited to feet, legs, tail, head or ears before being checked out.

e. Deer hunting on WMAs is restricted to still hunting only.

f. Construction of and/or hunting from permanent tree stands or permanent blinds on WMAs is prohibited. Any permanent stand or permanent blind will be removed and destroyed. A permanent blind is any blind using non-natural materials or having a frame which is not dismantled within two hours after the end of legal shooting time each day. Blinds with frames of wood, plastic, metal poles, wire, mesh, webbing or other materials may be

used but must be removed from the WMA within two hours after the end of legal shooting time each day. Blinds made solely of natural vegetation and not held together by nails or other metallic fasteners may be left in place but cannot be used to reserve hunting locations. Natural vegetation (including any material used as corner posts) is defined as natural branches that are 2 inches or less in diameter. All decoys must be removed from the WMA daily. Permanent tree stands are any stands that use nails, screws, spikes, etc., to attach to trees and are strictly prohibited. Deer stands may not be left on WMAs unless the stands are removed from trees, placed flat on the ground, and left in a non-hunting position (a non-hunting position is one in which a hunter could not hunt from the stand in its present position). Also, all stands left must be legibly tagged with the user's name, address, phone number and LDWF ID number. No stand may be left on any WMA prior to the day before deer season opens on that WMA and all stands must be removed from the WMA within one day after the close of deer hunting on that WMA. Free standing blinds must be disassembled when not in use. Stands left will not reserve hunting sites for the owner or user. All portable stands, blinds, tripods, etc., found unattended in a hunting position, not placed flat on the ground, or untagged will be confiscated and disposed of by the LDWF. LDWF is not responsible for unattended stands left on an area.

g. **Physically Challenged Wheelchair Confined Deer and Waterfowl**

Hunting Areas: special deer and waterfowl hunting areas, blinds and stands identified with LDWF logos, have been established for physically challenged hunter permit (PCHP) wheelchair confined hunters on WMAs. Hunters must obtain a PCHP permit and are required to make reservations to use blinds and stands. PCHP wheelchair hunting areas are available on Alexander State Forest, Bayou Pierre, Big Colewa Bayou, Buckhorn, Clear Creek, Floy McElroy, Fort Polk-Vernon, Maurepas Swamp, Russell Sage, Sandy Hollow, and Sherburne WMAs. Check

WMA hunting schedules or call the LDWF field offices in Pineville, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Opelousas, Minden, Monroe or Hammond for information.

- h. Hunting from utility poles and structures, and oil and gas exploration facilities or platforms is prohibited.
- i. It is illegal to save or reserve hunting locations using permanent stands or blinds. Stands or blinds attached to trees with screws, nails, spikes, etc. are illegal.
- j. Tree climbing spurs, spikes or screw-in steps are prohibited.
- k. Unattended decoys will be confiscated and forfeited to the LDWF and disposed of by the LDWF. This action is necessary to prevent preemption of hunting space.
- l. Spot lighting (shining) from vehicles is prohibited on all WMAs.
- m. Horses and mules may be ridden on WMAs except where prohibited and except during gun seasons for deer and turkey. Riding is restricted to designated roads and trails depicted on WMA map, self-clearing permit is required. Organized trail rides prohibited except allowed by permit only on Camp Beauregard. Hunting and trapping from horses and mules is prohibited except for quail hunting or as otherwise specified. Horse-drawn conveyances are prohibited.
- n. All hunters (including archers and small game hunters) except waterfowl hunters and mourning dove hunters on WMAs must display 400 square inches of "hunter orange" or "blaze pink" and wear a "hunter orange" or "blaze pink" cap during open gun season for deer. Quail and woodcock hunters and hunters participating in special dog seasons for rabbit, squirrel and feral hogs are required to wear a minimum of a "hunter orange" or "blaze pink" cap. All other hunters and archers (while on the ground) except waterfowl hunters also must wear a minimum of a "hunter orange" or "blaze pink" cap during special dog seasons for

rabbit and squirrel and feral hogs. Also all persons afield during hunting seasons are encouraged to display "hunter orange" or "blaze pink". Hunters participating in special shotgun season for feral hogs on Atchafalaya Delta, Pass-a-Loutre, Pointe-aux-Chenes and Salvador WMAs must display 400 square inches of "hunter orange" or "blaze pink" and wear a "hunter orange" or "blaze pink" cap.

o. Deer hunters hunting from concealed ground blinds must display a minimum of 400 square inches of "hunter orange" or "blaze pink" above or around their blinds which is visible from 360 degrees.

p. Archery Season for Deer. The archery season on WMAs is the same as outside and is open for either-sex deer except as otherwise specified on individual WMAs. Archery season restricted on Atchafalaya Delta and closed on certain WMAs when special seasons for youth or physically challenged hunts are in progress. Consult regulations pamphlet for specific seasons.

q. Either-sex deer may be taken on WMAs at any time during archery season except when bucks only seasons are in progress on the respective WMAs. Archers must abide by bucks only regulations and other restrictions when such seasons are in progress.

r. Primitive Firearms Season for Deer. Either-sex unless otherwise specified. See WMA deer schedule. Except youths 17 or younger may use any legal weapon during the primitive firearm season.

## 6. Camping

a. Camping on WMAs, including trailers, houseboats, vessels, recreational vehicles and tents, is allowed only in designated areas and for a period not to exceed 16 consecutive days, regardless if the camp is attended or unattended. At the end of the 16-day

period, camps must be removed from the area for at least 48 hours. Camping area use limited exclusively to outdoor recreational activities. Camping is available on a first-come, first-serve basis unless otherwise specified.

b. Houseboats and vessels utilized for recreational activities are prohibited from overnight mooring within WMAs except on stream banks adjacent to designated camping areas. Overnight mooring of vessels that provide lodging for hire are prohibited on WMAs. Houseboats and vessels shall not impede navigation. On Atchafalaya Delta WMA houseboats may be moored by permit only in designated areas during hunting season. Permits are available by lottery annually or by five year lease through a bid program.

c. Discharge of human waste onto lands or waters of any WMA is strictly prohibited by state and federal law. In the event public restroom facilities are not available at a WMA, the following is required. Anyone camping on a WMA in a camper, trailer, or other unit (other than a houseboat or tent) shall have and shall utilize an operational disposal system attached to the unit. Tent campers shall have and shall utilize portable waste disposal units and shall remove all human waste from the WMA upon leaving. Houseboats moored on a WMA shall have a permit or letter of certification from the Health Unit (Department of Health and Hospitals) of the parish within which the WMA occurs verifying that it has an approved sewerage disposal system on board. Further, that system shall be utilized by occupants of the houseboats when on the WMA.

d. No refuse or garbage may be dumped from these boats.

e. Firearms may not be kept loaded or discharged in a camping area unless otherwise specified.

- f. Campsites must be cleaned by occupants prior to leaving and all refuse placed in designated locations when provided or carried off by campers.
- g. Trash must be contained at all times while camping.
- h. Burning of trash is prohibited.
- i. Glass containers prohibited on campgrounds.
- j. Non-compliance with camping regulations will subject occupant to immediate expulsion and/or citation, including restitution for damages.
- k. Swimming is prohibited within 100 yards of boat launching ramps.

7. Restricted Areas

- a. For your safety, all oil and gas production facilities (wells, pumping stations and storage facilities) are off limits.
- b. No unauthorized entry or unauthorized hunting in restricted areas, refuges, or limited use areas unless otherwise specified.

8. Dogs. All use of dogs on WMAs, except for bird hunting and duck hunting, is experimental as required by law. Having or using dogs on any WMA is prohibited except for nighttime experimental raccoon hunting, squirrel hunting, rabbit hunting, bird hunting, duck hunting, hog hunting and bird dog training when allowed; see individual WMA season listings for WMAs that allow dogs. Dogs running at large are prohibited on WMAs. The owner or handler of said dogs shall be liable. Only recognizable breeds of bird dogs and retrievers are allowed for quail and migratory bird hunting. Only beagle hounds which do not exceed 15 inches at the front shoulders and which have recognizable characteristics of the breed may be used on WMAs having experimental rabbit seasons. A leashed dog may be used to trail and retrieve wounded or unrecovered deer during legal hunting hours. Any dog used to trail or retrieve

wounded or unrecovered deer shall have on a collar with owner's name, address and phone number. In addition, a dog may be used to trail and retrieve unrecovered deer after legal hunting hours; however, no person accompanying a dog after legal hunting hours may carry a firearm of any sort.

9. Vehicles

a. An all-terrain vehicle is an off-road vehicle (not legal for highway use) with factory specifications not to exceed the following: weight-750 pounds, length-85", and width-48". ATV tires are restricted to those no larger than 26 x 12 with a maximum 1" lug height and a maximum allowable tire pressure of 12 psi. as indicated on the tire by the manufacturer. Use of all other ATVs or ATV tires are prohibited on a WMA.

b. *Utility Type Vehicle (UTV, also Utility Terrain Vehicle)*—any recreational motor vehicle other than an ATV, not legal for highway use, designed for and capable of travel over designated unpaved roads, traveling on four or more low-pressure tires, with factory specifications not to exceed the following: weight-1900 pounds, length-128" and width-68". UTV tires are restricted to those no larger than 27 x 12 with a maximum 1" lug height and a maximum allowable tire pressure of 12 psi. UTV's are commonly referred to as side by sides and may include golf carts.

c. Vehicles having wheels with a wheel-tire combination radius of 17 inches or more measured from the center of the hub and horizontal to ground are prohibited.

d. The testing, racing, speeding or unusual maneuvering of any type of vehicle is prohibited within WMAs due to property damages resulting in high maintenance costs, disturbance of wildlife and destruction of forest reproduction.

e. Tractor or implement tires with farm tread designs R1, R2 and R4 known commonly as spade or lug grip types are prohibited on all vehicles.

f. Airboats, aircraft, personal water craft, “mud crawling vessels” (commonly referred to as crawfish combines which use paddle wheels for locomotion) and hover craft are prohibited on all WMAs and refuges, except type A personal water craft, model year 2003 and beyond, which are eight feet in length and greater, may be operated within WMAs from April 1 until the Monday of Labor Day weekend, from sunrise to sunset only, and except personal water craft allowed on designated portions of Alexander State Forest WMA year-round, except airboats allowed on Maurepas Swamp WMA pursuant to R.S. 56:109.4. Personal water craft are defined as a vessel which uses an inboard motor powering a water jet pump as its primary source of propulsion and is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on the vessel rather than in the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside the vessel. No person shall operate such water craft at a speed greater than slow/no wake within 100 feet of an anchored or moored vessel, shoreline, dock, pier, or persons engaged in angling or any other manually powered vessel.

g. Driving or parking vehicles on food or cover plots and strips is prohibited.

h. Blocking the entrance to roads and trails is prohibited.

i. Licensed motorized vehicles (LMVs) legal for highway use, including motorcycles, are restricted entirely to designated roads as indicated on WMA maps. UTVs are restricted to marked UTV trails only, except that those UTVs in which the manufacturer’s specifications do not exceed the weight, length, width, and tire restrictions for ATVs are allowed on ATV trails. ATVs are restricted to marked ATV trails only. When when



WMA roads are closed to LMVs, ATVs and UTVs may then use those roads when allowed. This restriction does not apply to bicycles.

NOTE: Only ATV and UTV trails marked with signs and/or paint, and depicted on WMA maps are open for use.

j. Use of special ATV trails for physically challenged persons is restricted to ATV physically challenged permittees. Physically challenged ATV permittees are restricted to physically challenged ATV trails or other ATV trails only as indicated on WMA maps or as marked by sign and/or paint. Persons 60 years of age and older, with proof of age, are also allowed to use special physically challenged trails and need not obtain a permit. However, these persons must abide by all rules in place for these trails. Physically challenged persons under the age of 60 must apply for and obtain a physically challenged hunter program permit from the LDWF.

k. Entrances to ATV trails will be marked with peach colored paint. Entrances to physically challenged-only ATV trails will be marked with blue colored paint. Entrances to ATV trails that are open year round will be marked with purple paint. The end of all ATV trails will be marked by red paint. WMA maps serve only as a general guide to the route of most ATV trails, therefore all signage and paint marking as previously described will be used to determine compliance.

l. Roads and trails may be closed due to poor condition, construction or wet weather.

m. ATVs, and motorcycles cannot be left overnight on WMAs except on designated camping areas. ATVs are prohibited from two hours after sunset to 4 a.m., except raccoon hunters may use ATVs during nighttime raccoon take seasons only. ATVs are prohibited

from March 1 through August 31 except squirrel hunters are allowed to use ATV trails during the spring squirrel season on the WMA and except certain trails may be open during this time period to provide access for fishing or other purposes and some ATV trails will be open all year long on certain WMAs.

n. Caution. Many LDWF-maintained roadways on WMAs are unimproved and substandard. A maximum 20 mph speed limit is recommended for all land vehicles using these roads, unless specific signage otherwise allows or restricts.

o. Hunters are allowed to retrieve their own downed deer and hogs with the aid of an ATV except on Thistlethwaite, Sherburne, Atchafalaya Delta, Pass-a-Loutre, Pointe-aux-Chenes, Salvador, Timken, Lake Boeuf, and Biloxi, and the Crusel Tract of Maurepas Swamp WMAs under the following conditions:

i. no firearms or archery equipment is in possession of the retrieval party or on the ATV;

ii. the retrieval party may consist of no more than one ATV and one helper;

iii. ATVs may not be used to locate or search for wounded game or for any other purpose than retrieval of deer and hogs once they have been legally harvested and located;

iv. UTV's may not be used to retrieve downed deer or hogs.

p. No wake zones. Operation of vessels beyond bare steerage speed (the slowest speed a vessel can travel while allowing the operator to maintain directional control of the vessel) in posted no wake zones is prohibited.

q. Electric bicycles are restricted to designated roads and trails.

10. Commercial Activities

a. Hunting Guides/Outfitters. No person or group may act as a hunting guide, outfitter or in any other capacity for which they are paid or promised to be paid directly or indirectly by any other individual or individuals for services rendered to any other person or persons hunting on any WMA, regardless of whether such payment is for guiding, outfitting, lodging or club memberships.

b. Except for licensed activities otherwise allowed by law, commercial activities are prohibited without a permit issued by the secretary of the LDWF.

c. Commercial Fishing. Permits are required of all commercial fishermen using Grassy Lake, Pomme de Terre and Spring Bayou WMAs. Drag seines (except minnow and bait seines) are prohibited except experimental bait seines allowed on Dewey Wills WMA north of LA 28 in Diversion Canal. Commercial fishing is prohibited during regular waterfowl seasons on Grand Bay, Silver Lake and Lower Sunk Lake on Richard K. Yancey WMA. Commercial fishing is prohibited on Salvador/Timken, Pointe-aux-Chenes, and Russell Sage WMAs except commercial fishing on Pointe-aux-Chenes is allowed in Cut Off Canal and Wonder Lake. No commercial fishing activity shall impede navigation and no unattended vessels or barges will be allowed. Non-compliance with permit regulations will result in revocation of commercial fishing privileges for the period the license is issued and one year thereafter. Commercial fishing is allowed on Pass-a-Loutre and Atchafalaya Delta WMAs. See Pass-a-Loutre for additional commercial fishing regulations on mullet.

11. WMAs Basic Season Structure. For season dates, bag limits, shooting hours, special seasons and other information consult the annual regulations pamphlet for specific details.

12. Resident Small Game (squirrel, rabbit, quail, mourning dove, woodcock, snipe, rail and gallinule). Same as outside except closed during modern firearm either-sex deer seasons on certain WMAs (see WMA schedule) and except non-toxic shot, size 6 or smaller must be used for dove, rail, snipe, and gallinule. Unless otherwise specified under a specific WMA hunting schedule, the use of dogs for rabbit and squirrel hunting is prohibited. Spring squirrel season with or without dogs: first Saturday of May for nine days. Consult regulations pamphlet for specific WMAs.

13. Waterfowl (ducks, geese and coots). Consult regulations pamphlet. Hunting after 2 p.m. prohibited on all WMAs except for Atchafalaya Delta, Attakapas, Biloxi, Lake Boeuf, Pass-a-Loutre, Pointe-aux-Chenes, and Salvador/Timken WMAs. Consult specific WMA regulations for shooting hours on these WMAs.

14. Archery. Consult regulations pamphlet.

15. Hogs. Feral hogs may be taken during any open hunting season on WMAs by properly licensed and/or permitted hunters using only guns or bow and arrow legal for specified seasons in progress, except take of hogs is prohibited during nighttime raccoon seasons. Hogs may not be taken with the aid of dogs, except feral hogs may be taken with the aid of dogs during the month of February on Attakapas, Bodcau, Clear Creek, Little River, Pearl River, Sabine, Sabine Island, and West Bay and that portion of Dewey W. Wills north of the Catahoula Lake Diversion Canal by self-clearing permit. All hogs must be killed immediately and may not be transported live under any conditions. During the February dog season hunters may use centerfire pistols in addition to using guns allowed for season in progress. Additionally, feral hogs may be taken on Atchafalaya Delta, Pass-a-Loutre, Pointe-aux-Chenes and Salvador/Timken WMAs from February 16 through March 31 with archery equipment, shotguns

loaded with buckshot or slugs or rimfire rifles no larger than .22 caliber. Additional requirements may be specified under individual WMAs, see regulation pamphlet.

16. Outlaw Quadrupeds and Birds. Consult regulations pamphlet. During hunting seasons specified on WMAs, except the turkey and spring squirrel seasons, take of outlaw quadrupeds and birds, with or without the use of electronic calls, is allowed by properly licensed hunters and only with guns or bows and arrows legal for season in progress on WMA. However, crows, blackbirds, grackles and cowbirds may not be taken before September 1 or after January 1. As described in 50 CFR Part 21, non-toxic shot must be used for the take of crows, blackbirds, cowbirds and grackles under the special depredation order. In addition an annual report has to be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for those that participate in the take of these species.

17. WMAs Hunting Schedule and Regulations

- a. Acadiana Conservation Corridor. Self-Clearing Permit required for all activities.
  - i. Archery only: Oct. 1-15 bucks only, Oct. 16-Feb. 15, either sex.
  - ii. All other seasons CLOSED. No motorized vehicles allowed and no access via I-49 right-of-way.
- b. Alexander State Forest. From December through February all hunters must check daily with the Office of Forestry for scheduled burning activity. No hunting or other activity will be permitted in burn units the day of the burning. Call 318-487-5172 or 318-487-5058 for information on burning schedules. Attaching stands to Red Cockaded Woodpecker cavity trees is prohibited. Cavity trees are marked with painted, double white bands. Self-Clearing Permits required for hunters only. Vehicles restricted to paved and

graveled roads. No parking on or fishing or swimming from bridges. No open fires EXCEPT in recreational areas. Physically Challenged Wheelchair Confined Deer Hunting Area: Access restricted. Check WMA map for location and call Minden Pineville or Baton Rouge Offices for details and applications. Hunting by reservation for wheelchair confined PCHP permittees only. Same deer seasons listed below.

i. Deer:

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Firearms: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, bucks only.

(c). Primitive Firearms: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Oct. for 2 days; first Sat. of Nov. for 2 days. Mandatory Deer Check.

ii. Small Game: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during primitive firearms season and open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting Sat. before Christmas to the last day of Feb.

iii. Waterfowl: Same as outside. (Certain areas may be closed as posted).

c. Atchafalaya Delta. Self-Clearing Permit required for all activities.

All persons must either check in/check out electronically through the LDWF WMA Self-Clearing Permit app/Internet Web Portal or obtain a WMA Self-Clearing Permit from an information station located at deer hunting, feral hog hunting and tent camping only. Self-clearing permits available from Main Delta campground, Wax Delta Campground, Cul-de-sac on Big Island, and Berwick Public Boat Launch (Jesse Fontenot Boat Launch). Camping and

houseboat mooring allowed ONLY in designated campgrounds. Houseboat mooring allowed by permit only (see Subparagraph G. 6. Camping b. for details). Limited Access Area: Operation of internal combustion engines prohibited from September through January. See WMA map for specific locations. Vessels/Vehicles: Mudboats or air-cooled propulsion vessels powered by more than 36 total horsepower are prohibited on the WMA. All ATVs/UTVs, motorcycles, horses and mules prohibited EXCEPT as permitted for authorized WMA trappers. Big Island: CLOSED to all activities during the month of October, EXCEPT LDWF Lottery Hunts.

i. Deer Archery (either-sex): Oct. 1 - Jan. 31 on Main Delta only (Big Island CLOSED during October); no deer hunting on Wax Lake Delta. All harvested deer must be checked in at Atchafalaya Delta Headquarters.

ii. Deer Youth Lottery (either-sex): ~~Oct. 14-15 & 21-22~~ 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Oct. for 2 days; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, daily youth hunt permit required. Call the ~~New Iberia Field Office, Coastal and Nongame Resources Division, 337-373-0032~~ Lafayette Field Office, Coastal WMAs at 337-735-8667 for details.

iii. Small Game: Same as outside EXCEPT Rabbit Only:

(a). Wax Lake Delta: Oct. 7-31 and Feb. 1-28, with or without beagles. Nov. 1 - Jan. 31 without beagles only.

(b). Main Delta: Feb. 1-28, with or without beagles.

CLOSED October through January.

iv. Waterfowl: Same as outside, EXCEPT shooting hours shall be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 2 p.m. during opening weekends of teal and duck season and 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset the remainder of the season, and EXCEPT shooting hours are the same as outside for the Youth Hunt weekend.

v. Feral Hogs: May be taken by properly licensed hunters Oct.

1 to the last day of February ~~Feb. 28~~. In addition, hunters may hunt feral hogs with archery equipment, shotguns loaded with buckshot or slugs or rimfire rifles no larger than .22 caliber from Feb. 16 - March 31. Hunters must also display 400 square inches of "hunter orange" or "blaze pink" and wear a "hunter orange" or "blaze pink" cap during special shotgun season for feral hogs. All harvested hogs must be checked in at the Atchafalaya Delta WMA headquarters.

d. Attakapas. Area CLOSED to all EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters when the Youth deer season is open. ~~Self Clearing Permits required for hunters only.~~

i. Deer:

(a). Deer hunting will be closed when the river stage of the Atchafalaya River reaches 15 feet msl at Butte LaRose and will reopen when the river stage recedes to 14 feet msl at Butte LaRose.

(b). Archery: Oct. 1-15 bucks only, Oct. 16-Feb. 15, either sex.

(c). Youth: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex.

(d). Firearms Either-Sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 2 days

(e). Firearms Bucks Only: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 9 days.

(f). Primitive Firearms (Bucks only): 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of January for 2 days.

ii. Turkey: ~~Closed. Opening day of statewide season for 9 days, EXCEPT season will open for 10 days when statewide season opens on Good Friday.~~



iii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT small game hunting CLOSED during either-sex modern firearms seasons CLOSED during youth deer seasons and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting the day after primitive firearms season ends to the last day of Feb.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days and the day after the last deer firearms season (bucks only or primitive) to the last day of Feb.

e. Bayou Macon. Area Closed: To all EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days. All night activities prohibited EXCEPT as otherwise provided.

i. Deer:

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Youth: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex.

(c). Firearms: Sat. prior to Thanksgiving for 2 days, Mandatory Deer Check, either-sex.

(d). Primitive Firearms: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 9 days.

ii. Turkey: General Lottery: Last Sat. of Area B season for 2 days.

iii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex modern firearms season and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting the day after the last deer firearms season (bucks only or primitive) to the last day of Feb. On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, beagles are allowed for rabbit and dogs are allowed for squirrel Mon. after 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Oct.-Sun.

prior to firearms either-sex deer, and training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1- August 31.

iv. Raccoon: (Nighttime): Sept. 1st for 16 days and 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Jan. to the last day of Feb.

f. Bayou Pierre. Waterfowl Refuge is closed to all hunting, trapping and fishing EXCEPT for archery hunting for deer, which is allowed on the entire area. Refuge is marked with "Waterfowl Refuge" signs. Contact Minden Office, for details for lottery hunts listed below at 318-371-3050.

i. Deer:

(a). Archery only: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex. Archery hunting is allowed in the waterfowl refuge.

ii. Dove: Same as outside.

iii. Waterfowl Lottery Only: (Designated Portion)

(a). Lottery Youth Hunt: Same as outside youth waterfowl hunt.

(b). General Lottery Hunt: 2nd weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> split and 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weekends of 2<sup>nd</sup> split of the West Zone season.

iv. Other Small Game: Same as outside and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting Sat. before Christmas to last day of Feb. On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1- August 31.

v. Raccoon (Nighttime): Sat. before Christmas to last day of Feb.

g. Big Colewa Bayou. ~~Self Clearing Permit not required.~~ Physically Challenged Wheelchair Confined Deer Hunting Area: Access restricted. Check WMA map for location and call Monroe or Baton Rouge Offices for details and applications. Hunting by reservation for wheelchair confined PCHP permittees only. Fri. after Thanksgiving for 3 days, either-sex and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 16 days, bucks only.

i. Deer:

(a). Archery only: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

ii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbit hunting Jan. 1st to last day of Feb. On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, beagles are allowed for rabbit and dogs are allowed for squirrel Mon. after 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Oct.-Sun. prior to Thanksgiving, and training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1- August 31.

iii. All nighttime activities prohibited.

h. Big Lake. ~~Area closed to all south of Big Lake and Crystal Roads when youth deer season is open. North of Big Lake and Crystal Roads open to all activities. Area Closed: To all EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters during the Youth Deer Hunt only on that portion of the area south of Big Lake and Crystal Roads. Remainder of area open for all activities.~~

i. Deer:

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Youth: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex.

Youth hunt on designated portion. See WMA map for specific location.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day

for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. Mandatory Deer Check, Sun. Self-Clearing Permit.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 14 days.

(e). Primitive Firearms: Day after firearms bucks only

season closes for 14 days.

ii. Turkey: Opening day of statewide season for 16 days,

EXCEPT season will open for 17 days when statewide season opens on Good Friday.

(a). Youth: Sat. before opening day of statewide season

for 2 days, EXCEPT when that Sat. falls on Easter weekend then season will open on Good Friday for 3 days.

iii. Small Game: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during

either-sex firearms seasons and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting the day after primitive firearms season ends to the last day of Feb.

iv. Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during

either-sex modern firearms seasons.

v. Raccoon (Nighttime): the day after primitive firearms

season ends to the last day of Feb.

vi. Sport Fishing: yoyos, limblines and trotlines allowed

prohibited on Big and Chain Lakes.

vii. Commercial fishing: commercial fishing is prohibited.

i. Biloxi. Self-Clearing Permits ~~required~~ for all activities ~~not~~ ~~required~~. Vessels/Vehicles: All ATVs/UTVs, motorcycles, horses, and mules are prohibited. Mud boats or air cooled propulsion vessels can only be powered by straight shaft "long-tail" air-cooled mud motors that are 25 total horsepower or less. All other types of mud boats or air cooled propulsion vessels, including "surface-drive" boats, are prohibited. Overnight mooring of all vessels 50 feet in length or more is prohibited.

i. Deer

(a). Archery (bucks only): Oct. 1-15

(b). Deer Archery (either-sex): Oct. 16 - Jan. 31

ii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside

EXCEPT beagles allowed for rabbits when duck season is closed and EXCEPT CLOSED to squirrel hunting during the spring season.

j. Bodcau. Area ~~Closed~~: ~~Closed~~ closed to all EXCEPT Youth deer hunters during the Youth Deer Hunt on designated portion.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Youth: Sat. after 2<sup>nd</sup> Fri. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex on designated portion.

(c). Firearms either-sex: Last Sat. of Oct. to the Sun. after Thanksgiving Day. Last Sat. of Oct. and Sun. after last Sat. of Oct., Mandatory Deer Check.

(d). Primitive Firearms: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day for 7 days.

ii. Turkey

(a). Opening day of statewide season for 16 days,

EXCEPT season will open for 17 days when statewide season opens Good Friday.

(b). Youth: Sat. before opening day of statewide season

for 2 days EXCEPT when that Sat. falls on Easter weekend, then season will open on Good Friday for 3 days. 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of April for 2 days.

iii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT

CLOSED during the youth deer hunt on designated portion and entire area 1<sup>st</sup> 2 days of modern firearms deer season EXCEPT spring squirrel season will be open the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days only, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting Day after firearms deer season ends to the last day of Feb.

(a). Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4th Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

iv. Raccoon: (Nighttime) Day after firearms deer season ends

to the last day of Feb.

v. Bird Dog Training Area: Permit required. Open all year

EXCEPT CLOSED during WMA Turkey Season. Contact Minden Office for permits and information.

vi. Fishing: Nets and traps prohibited on Ivan Lake.

k. Boeuf. Area Closed to all south of LA 4 EXCEPT Youth Deer

Hunters when youth deer season is open. North of LA 4 open to all activities. Limited Access Area: No motorized vessels or vehicles allowed Nov. 1-Jan. 31. Internal combustion engines and craft limited to 10 hp rating or less in the Greentree Reservoir.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Youth: 2nd Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day  
for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. - Mandatory Deer Check, Sun. - Self-Clearing Permit.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 14 days.

(e). Primitive Firearms: Day after the close of Firearms  
Bucks Only for 14 days. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Nov. for 7 days.

ii. Turkey: Opening day of statewide season for 16 days,  
EXCEPT season will open for 17 days when statewide season opens Good Friday.

iii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT  
CLOSED during Deer **Firearms** Either-sex **modern firearms** season, and EXCEPT spring squirrel  
season will be open the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days only, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed  
for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting the day after the last deer firearms season  
(bucks only or primitive) to the last day of Feb. Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.  
On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, beagles are allowed for rabbit and  
dogs are allowed for squirrel Mon. after 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Oct.-Sun. prior to Thanksgiving, and training  
of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1- August 31.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days and the  
day after the last deer firearms season (bucks only or primitive) to the last day of Feb.

1. Buckhorn. Area Closed: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days to all  
EXCEPT Youth and Physically Challenged Deer hunters.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Youth and Physically Challenged: Last Sat. of Oct.  
for 2 days, either-sex.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day  
for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. Mandatory Deer Check, Sun. Self-Clearing Permit; and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec.  
for 2 days.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 14 days.

(e). Primitive Firearms: Day after firearms bucks only  
season ends for 14 days.

(f). Youth and Physically Challenged Wheelchair  
Confined Deer Hunting Area: check map for location. Access restricted. Call Monroe or Baton  
Rouge Offices for further details.

(g). Youth Lottery: 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend and last consecutive  
Sat. and Sun. of Dec. and 1<sup>st</sup> consecutive Sat. and Sun. in Jan. Either-sex. Hunting by pre-  
application lottery only.

(h). Physically Challenged Wheelchair Confined: ~~2<sup>nd</sup> &~~  
~~3<sup>rd</sup> weekend~~ 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend and last consecutive Sat. and Sun. of Dec. and 1<sup>st</sup> consecutive Sat. and  
Sun. in Jan. Either-sex. Hunting by reservation for wheelchair confined. PCHP permittees only.

ii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT  
CLOSED during either-sex ~~gun hunts~~ modern firearm season and Open to squirrel hunting  
during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for  
rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting the day after primitive firearms season ends to the  
last day of Feb.



iii. Raccoon (Nighttime): Day after primitive firearms season ends to the last day of Feb.

m. Bussey Brake. Area closed to all hunting activity. Recreational fishing and all other allowed non-consumptive uses only.

n. Camp Beauregard. All or portions of the area may be closed daily due to military activities. All game harvested must be reported on self-clearing checkout permit. No hunting in Restricted Areas. Swimming in Twin Lakes prohibited. Retriever training allowed on selected portions of the WMA. Area Closed: To all EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters and Permitted Disabled Veterans Hunters Sat. and Sun. preceding Veterans Day.

i. Deer:

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Youth Deer Hunt: Sat. and Sun. preceding Veterans Day, either-sex on designated portion of the WMA.

(c). Disabled Veterans Deer Hunt: Sat. and Sun. preceding Veterans Day, by lottery only, either-sex on designated portion of the WMA. Call **Minden Pineville** office for details and application.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: Dec. 26-Jan. 1.

(e). Primitive Firearms: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 2 days, Mandatory Deer Check. All deer harvested must be brought to Rifle Range Road Weigh Station. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 2 days Self-Clearing Permit.

ii. Turkey: Opening day of statewide season for 9 days, EXCEPT season will open for 10 days when statewide season opens Good Friday.

iii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside, EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex gun hunts for deer and EXCEPT CLOSED to squirrel hunting during the spring season. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting Sat. after Jan. 1 to the last day of Feb.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): Last consecutive Sat. and Sun. in Jan. to last day of Feb.

v. Fishing: Special regulations to be posted at Twin Lakes.

o. Clear Creek. Area Closed to all EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters when the Youth Deer Season is open. Physically Challenged Wheelchair Confined Deer Hunting Area: Access restricted. Check WMA map for location and call Lake Charles or Baton Rouge Offices for details and applications. Hunting by reservation for wheelchair confined PCHP permittees only. Same deer seasons listed below.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Sept. to Jan. 15, either-sex.

(b). Youth Deer Hunt: Next to last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, Mandatory Deer Check and Fri. after Thanksgiving for 3 days, Self-Clearing Permit.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: Mon. after close of Primitive Season to Thanksgiving Day, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. to Jan. 1.

(e). Primitive Firearms: Mon. after 1<sup>st</sup> either-sex firearms weekend for 7 days.

ii. Turkey

- (a). Mon. after 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of April for 21 days.
- (b). General Lottery: Opening day of statewide season for 2 days, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of April for 2 days.
- (c). Youth Lottery: Sat. before opening day of statewide season.

iii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex gun hunts and EXCEPT spring squirrel season will be open 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days only, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting the day after firearms bucks only season closes to the last day of Feb.

Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): Day after firearms bucks only season closes to the last day of Feb.

p. Dewey Wills. Limited access area, no motorized vessels or vehicles allowed from November through January. Area Closed: to all EXCEPT Youth and Physically Challenged Deer Hunters during the Physically Challenged and Youth Deer Hunt only on that portion of the area north of the Diversion Canal.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Physically Challenged and Youth: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex. Only that portion of the area north of the Diversion Canal shall be open only to Physically Challenged and youth deer hunters. The remainder of the area is open to all.

(c). Youth Lottery: 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 2 days, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Jan. for 2 days, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Jan. for 2 days, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Jan. for 2 days, either-sex. Contact Opelousas Office (337-948-0255) Pineville Office (318-487-5885) for details and applications.

(d). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. Mandatory Deer Check, Sun. Self-Clearing Permit. No hunting allowed in the greentree impoundment or within 100 feet of the greentree levee if duck season is in progress.

(e). Firearms Bucks Only: 4th Sat. of Dec. for 16 days.

(f). Primitive Firearms: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat of Dec. for 2 days.

ii. Turkey: Closed.

(a). — General Lottery: Opening day of statewide season for 2 days, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of April for 2 days.

iii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during Physically Challenged and Youth Deer Season north of the Diversion Canal and the entire area during the either-sex firearm hunt EXCEPT waterfowl hunting will be allowed in the greentree impoundment during the firearm either-sex season and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after Firearms Bucks-Only season ends to the last day of Feb. On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, beagles are allowed for rabbit and dogs are allowed for squirrel 1st Sat. of Oct. to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. of Nov., and training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1- August 31.

iv. Raccoon

(a). Nighttime: day after primitive firearms season ends to the last day of Feb.

(b). Nighttime Chase only: May 1-Sept. 25, Tuesdays and Thursdays only. Raccoon hunters may use ATVs on designated trails during take season only.

v. Crawfish: Limited to 100 pounds per person per day.

vi. LARTO TRACTS: All season dates on Larto Tracts (see WMA map) same as outside, EXCEPT ~~still hunt only and~~ EXCEPT deer hunting restricted to ARCHERY ONLY. All vehicles, including ATVs, are prohibited.

q. Elbow Slough.

i. Mourning Dove: Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays only during Sept. and Oct. of the outside season, EXCEPT by lottery only opening weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> split. Applications available at Minden Pineville office and online. Contact Pineville office for details.

ii. Rabbit: Feb. 1 to the last day of Feb. Beagles allowed.

iii. Crawfishing: March-July. Limit: 100 lbs. per person per day. Recreational crawfishing only. No traps or nets left overnight.

~~iii~~ iv. All other seasons closed. Non-toxic (minimum size #6) shot only for all hunting. All motorized vehicles prohibited.

r. Elm Hall. Self clearing permits required for hunters only.  
ATVs/UTVs prohibited.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-15 bucks only, Oct. 16-Feb. 15, either sex.

(b). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 2 days.

(c). Firearms Bucks Only: Sun. after Thanksgiving Day and the 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 9 days.

(d). Primitive Firearms: Next to last Sat. in Jan. for 2 days.

ii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex firearm seasons for deer, beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting the day after the close of primitive firearms to the end of Feb. and open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs.

s. Floy Ward McElroy. Access restricted. Contact Monroe Wildlife Field Office at 318-343-4045 for information.

i. Deer

(a). Youth Lottery: 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend and last consecutive Sat. and Sun. of Dec., and 1<sup>st</sup> consecutive Sat. and Sun. in Jan., either-sex. Restricted to those selected as a result of the pre-application lottery.

(b). Physically Challenged Wheelchair Confined Lottery: 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Nov. for 2 days, either-sex. Restricted to wheelchair confined PCHP permittees only selected as a result of the pre-application lottery.

(c). Beyond Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW)

Lottery Deer Hunt: Any weekend ~~prior to~~ after youth lottery hunts ~~and except weekend of~~  
~~Physically challenged wheel chair hunt~~. Hunt restricted to those that have successfully  
completed the Becoming an Outdoors Woman Deer Management Course. Must be Hunter  
Education certified. Contact LDWF Education Section, 318-343-1241, for more information.

t. Fort Polk-Vernon. Self-clearing permit required daily for all  
activities. All or portions of the area may be closed daily due to military activities. Information  
on open areas and special ATV regulations can be accessed at the following website:  
<http://www.jrtc-polk.army.mil/hunt2/hunt/default.htm>. Hunters are cautioned not to pick up any  
foreign material or objects while hunting on the WMA. Also, it is mandatory for hunters to  
check the open area maps, located at check stations, daily for sudden closures. Physically  
Challenged Wheelchair Confined Deer Hunting Area: Access restricted. Check WMA map for  
location and call Lake Charles Office for details and applications. Hunting by reservation for  
wheelchair confined PCHP permittees only. Same deer seasons listed below.

i. Deer:

(a). Archery: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Sept. to Jan. 15, either-sex.

Special Archery regulations for Cantonment Area, check locally at Building 2396 on 22<sup>nd</sup> St.,  
either-sex deer legal the entire season. Remainder of WMA restricted to bucks only when bucks  
only gun season is in progress.

(b). Primitive Firearms: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Oct. for 7 days, Self-

Clearing Permit required.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, and Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. mandatory deer check, Sun. self-clearing permit Mandatory Deer Check.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: Mon. after last Sat. of Oct. to Thanksgiving Day, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. to Jan. 1.

ii. Turkey: Same as outside.

(a). Youth Lottery: Sat. before opening day of statewide season.

iii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex firearms hunts for deer and EXCEPT CLOSED to squirrel hunting during the spring season. Hunter Orange or blaze pink must be worn when bucks only gun hunts for deer are in progress. Squirrel hunting with dogs allowed Mon. after Thanksgiving Day for 12 days and Jan. 2 to the last day of Feb.

iv. Feral Hogs: May be taken by properly licensed hunters from beginning of Archery Season to Jan. 1. Hunters may hunt feral hogs with shotguns loaded with buckshot or slugs from Jan. 2 to the end of Feb. Hunters must also display 400 square inches of hunter orange or blaze pink and wear a "Hunter Orange" or "Blaze Pink" cap during special shotgun season for hogs.

v. Fishing: Special regulations pertaining to fishing are posted at specific lakes.

vi. Experimental Hunting Area: Refer to Fort Polk WMA Hunting Map: Small game and squirrel hunting with dogs allowed Mon. after Thanksgiving Day



to last day of Feb. in Mill Creek 2 Alpha (MC2A) and Mill Creek 2 Bravo (MC2B) Mill Creek Unit. This area will be closed to deer and hog hunting during this time.

u. Grassy Lake. Area Closed: To all EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters during Youth Deer Hunt.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-15 bucks only, Oct. 16-Feb. 15 either-sex.

(b). Youth: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. Mandatory Deer Check, Sun. Self-Clearing Permit.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 9 days.

(e). Primitive Firearms (either-sex): 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of Dec. for 2 days.

ii. Turkey: Opening day of statewide season for 9 days, EXCEPT season will open for 10 days when statewide season opens Good Friday.

(a). Youth Lottery: Sat. before opening day of statewide season for 1 day.

iii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex firearms hunts for deer and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb. Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

iv. Sport Fishing: Same as outside EXCEPT permitted only after 2 p.m. during waterfowl season on Smith Bay, Red River Bay and Grassy Lake proper.

v. Commercial Fishing: Permitted EXCEPT on Smith Bay, Red River Bay and Grassy Lake proper on Saturday and Sunday and during waterfowl season. Permits available from area supervisor Spring Bayou Headquarters or ~~Opelousas~~ Lafayette Field Office.

vi. Raccoon (Nighttime): 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days, day after primitive firearms season ends for 12 days, and day after bucks only firearm season ends to the last day of Feb. ~~and day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb.~~

vii. Crawfishing: March 15-July 31. Recreational only. 100 pounds per person daily. No nets or traps may be left overnight.

v. Hutchinson Creek.

i. Deer: Same as outside, Archery Only, Either-sex.

ii. Turkey: Same as outside.

iii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside. Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Jan to the last day of Feb.

iv. Raccoon: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days and 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Jan to the Last day of Feb.

w. J. C. Sonny Gilbert. Area Closed: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days to all EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Youth: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day

for 3 days, self-clearing permit Mandatory Deer Check Fri. after Thanksgiving.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: 1st Sat. of Dec. for 14 days.

(e). Primitive Firearms: Day after close of Firearms

Bucks Only for 14 days.

ii. Turkey

(a). General Lottery: Opening day of statewide season

for 2 3 days, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fri. of April for 3 days, 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri. of April for 3 days, 4<sup>th</sup> Fri. of April for 3 days, 1<sup>st</sup> Fri. of May for 3 4 days.

(b). Youth Lottery: Sat. before opening day of statewide

season. General Lottery (15 Kid Draw, 1 day)

iii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT

CLOSED during either-sex modern firearms seasons hunts for deer and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting the day after the last deer firearms season (bucks only or primitive) to the last day of Feb.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): the day after the last deer firearms

season (bucks only or primitive) to last day of Feb.

v. Sport Fishing: Restricted to rod and reel, and pole fishing

only. All other gear prohibited.

x. Joyce. Swamp Walk: Closed from 30 minutes after sunset to 30

minutes before sunrise. No loaded firearms or hunting allowed within 100 yards of walkways.

Check hunting schedule and use walkway at your own risk. Limited Access Area: No internal combustion engines allowed year round. See WMA map for specific location.

i. Deer

- (a). Archery: Oct. 1-15 bucks only, Oct. 16-Feb. 15 either-sex.
- (b). Youth: 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Nov. for 2 days, either-sex.
- (c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Self-Clearing Permit.
- (d). Firearms Bucks Only: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 16 days.
- (e). Primitive Firearms (either-sex): 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Jan. for 2 days and Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan for 7 days.

ii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs.

Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after primitive firearms ends to the last day of Feb.

- (a). Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

iii. Raccoon (Nighttime): Day after primitive firearms ends to last day of Feb.

iv. Crawfish: Limited to 100 pounds per person per day.

y. Lake Boeuf. Self-Clearing Permit required for all activities. Self-

Clearing Permit available at Theriot Canal boat landing off LA 308. **Hunting until 12 p.m. (noon)**

**for all game, EXCEPT deer may be hunted until one half hour after sunset.** All nighttime

activities prohibited. ATVs/UTVs, motorcycles, horses and mules are prohibited.

i. Deer

(a). Archery (bucks only): Oct. 1-15

(b) Archery (either-sex): Oct. 16 - Jan. 31

ii. Waterfowl: Same as outside.

iii. Small Game: Nov. 1 - Feb. 28 and OPEN to squirrel

hunting during the spring season, May 5-13, with or without dogs. Beagles prohibited November and December.

z. Lake Ramsey. All vehicles restricted to Parish Roads and designated parking areas.

i. Deer

(a). Archery only, Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

ii. Turkey: Opening day of statewide season for 16 days,

EXCEPT season will open for 17 days when statewide season opens Good Friday.

iii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside and Open to

squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs.

Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting Sat. after Jan. 1 to last day of Feb.

iv. Foot traffic only - All vehicles restricted to Parish Roads,

EXCEPT ATVs allowed for hunters retrieving downed deer or feral hogs.

v. Bird Dog Training Area: Open all year EXCEPT CLOSED

during WMA Turkey Season. Contact Hammond Office (985-543-4777) for information.

aa. Little River

i. Deer

- (a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.
- (b). Firearms Bucks Only: Last Sat. of Oct. for 16 days.
- (c). Primitive Firearms: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for

3 days, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 2 days.

- ii. Turkey: Opening day of statewide season for 16 days,

EXCEPT season will open for 17 days when statewide season opens Good Friday.

- iii. Raccoon

- (a). Nighttime: Mon. after 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Jan. to last day of Feb.

- (b). Nighttime Chase Only: May 1-Sept. 25, Tuesdays and Thursdays only. Raccoon hunters may use ATVs on designated trails during take seasons only.

- iv. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT spring squirrel season will be open the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days only, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting Mon. after Sat. before Christmas to the last day of Feb.

- (a). Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4th Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

- bb. Loggy Bayou. Limited Use Area: Small game same as rest of WMA. Deer hunting archery only. See WMA map for specific location.

- i. Deer

- (a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

- (b). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. Mandatory Deer Check, Sun. Self-Clearing Permit.

(c). Primitive Firearms: Mon. after Thanksgiving Day  
for 7 days.

ii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT youth hunt only on opening Saturday of first split of dove season (following regulations for Youth Deer Hunt on WMAs), and EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex firearms seasons for deer and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting Sat. before Christmas to the last day of Feb.

iii. Raccoon (Nighttime): Sat. before Christmas to the last day of Feb.

cc. Manchac. Limited Access Area: No internal combustion engines allowed from September through January. See WMA map for specific location.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-15 bucks only; Oct. 16-Feb. 15  
either-sex.

ii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT steel shot required for rails, snipe and gallinules and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting Feb. 1 to the last day of Feb.

iii. Raccoon (Nighttime): Feb. 1 to the last day of Feb.

iv. Crabs: No crab traps allowed. Attended lift nets are  
allowed.

dd. Marsh Bayou.

i. Deer: Same as outside, Archery Only, Either-sex.

ii. Small Game: Same as outside. Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Jan to the last day of Feb. On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, beagles are allowed for rabbit and dogs are allowed for squirrel 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Oct.-Feb. 28, and training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1-August 31.

iii. Raccoon: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days and 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Jan to the Last day of Feb.

ee. Maurepas Swamp. Camping limited to tent camping in designated areas. See WMA map for locations. No loaded firearms or hunting allowed within 100 yards of Nature Trail. Benchmark Closure: Area Closed to all deer hunting when USGS water level gauge CRMS 5373, available at <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/la/nwis/rt> is at or above 3.0 ft. msl and reopens to deer hunting when water levels recede to 2.5 ft. msl following a closure. Motorized vehicles prohibited on Crusel Tract (see WMA map for Crusel Tract). Limited Use Area: Small game same as outside except shotgun only. Deer hunting archery only. See WMA map for specific location. Area Closed to all hunters EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters during Youth Deer Season. Physically Challenged Wheelchair Confined Deer Hunting Area: Access restricted. Check WMA map for location and call Hammond Office for details and applications. Hunting by reservation for wheelchair confined PCHP permittees only. Same deer seasons listed below.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-15 bucks only; Oct. 16-Feb. 15 either sex.



(b). Youth: 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Nov. for 2 days, either-sex.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. Mandatory Deer Check, and Sun. Self-Clearing Permit

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 16 days.

(e). Primitive Firearms: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Jan. for 2 days and Mon. after the next to last Sun. of Jan for 7 days.

ii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED Friday after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days during either-sex firearms hunts and CLOSED during youth deer season and EXCEPT spring squirrel season will be open the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after primitive firearms ends to the last day of Feb.

(a). Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

iii. Raccoon (Nighttime): Day after primitive firearms ends to last day of Feb.

iv. Crawfish: Limited to 100 pounds per person per day.

ff. Pass-A-Loutre. Self-Clearing Permit required for all activities ~~deer, feral hog hunting and camping only~~. Permits available at Pass-a-Loutre Headquarters, Camp Canal and all designated camping areas. Oyster harvesting is prohibited. Camping allowed ONLY in designated areas. See self-clearing permit station at headquarters and WMA map for designated camping areas. Vessels/Vehicles: All ATVs/UTVs, motorcycles, horses and mules are prohibited. Mud boats or air-cooled propulsion vessels powered by more than 36 total horsepower prohibited. Operation of mud boats and air-cooled propulsion engines prohibited after 2:00 p.m. Sept. 1 - Jan. 31, EXCEPT allowed after 2:00 p.m. in South Pass, Pass-a-Loutre,

Southeast Pass, Loomis Pass, Dennis Pass, and Cadro Pass. Limited Access Area: Operation of internal combustion engines prohibited from September through January. See WMA map for specific location.

i. Deer

(a). Archery (bucks only): Oct. 1- Feb.15.

(b). Youth Shotgun bucks only: second to last Sat in Oct. for 2 days.

(c). Deer Shotgun: Bucks only may be taken with shotguns with either slugs or buckshot from the day after the first split of the duck season closes for seven days.

ii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside. Beagles prohibited October through last day of waterfowl season.

iii. Feral Hogs: May be taken by properly licensed hunters from Oct. 1 to the last day of February ~~Feb. 28~~. In addition, hunters may hunt feral hogs with archery equipment, shotguns loaded with buckshot or slugs, or rimfire rifles no larger than .22 caliber from Feb. 16 - March 31. Hogs may be taken with the aid of dogs Feb. 16 - March 15. Hunters must also display 400 square inches of “hunter orange” or “blaze pink” and wear a “hunter orange” or “blaze pink” cap during special shotgun season for feral hogs.

iv. Commercial Fishing: Same as outside. Commercial mullet fishing open only in: South Pass, Pass-a-Loutre, North Pass, Southeast Pass, Northeast Pass, Dennis Pass, Johnson Pass, Loomis Pass, Cadro Pass, Wright Pass, Viveats Pass, Cognevich

Pass, Blind Bay, Redfish Bay, Garden Island Bay, Northshore Bay, East Bay (west of barrier islands) and oil and gas canals as described on the LDWF Pass-a-Loutre WMA map.

gg. Pearl River. Shooting range: Self-clearing permit not required but all range users must obtain a daily check in validation slip at the range upon sign-in at the range. For dates, time or more information call 985-643-3938 or [www.honeyisland.org](http://www.honeyisland.org). No loaded firearms or hunting within 100 yards of Boardwalk. All roads closed 8 p.m. - 4:00 a.m. to all vehicles. Old Hwy. 11 will be closed when river gauge at Pearl River, Louisiana, reaches 16.5 feet. All hunting except waterfowl hunting will be closed when the river stage at Pearl River reaches 16.5 feet. No hunting in the vicinity of the Nature Trail. Observe "No Hunting" signs. Area Closed to all hunters EXCEPT Youth Hunters during Youth deer hunt

i. Deer:

- (a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.
- (b). Youth Deer Hunt: 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Nov. for 2 days, either-sex.
- (c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Self-Clearing Permit.
- (d). Firearms Bucks Only: 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 16 days.
- (e). Primitive Firearms: 2 Sats. prior to Thanksgiving for 7 days and day after firearms bucks only season closes for 14 days.

ii. Turkey:

- (a). General Lottery: Opening day of statewide season for 2 days.

(b). Youth Lottery: Sat. before opening day of statewide season.

iii. Small Game: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED the Friday after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days during either-sex firearms hunts for deer, and closed during youth deer hunt, and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb.

(a). Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4th Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

iv. Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT no hunting in Waterfowl Refuge Area and EXCEPT CLOSED Fri. after Thanksgiving for 3 days, and during youth deer hunt north of U.S. Hwy. 90.

v. Raccoon (Nighttime): 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days and day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb.

vi. Crawfish: Commercial crawfishing prohibited. Limited to 100 pounds per person per day.

hh. Peason Ridge. Self-clearing permit required daily for all activities. All or portions of the area may be closed daily due to military activities. Information on open areas and special ATV regulations can be accessed at the following website: <http://www.jrtc-polk.army.mil/hunt2/hunt/default.htm>. Hunters are cautioned not to pick up any foreign material or objects while hunting on the WMA. Also, it is mandatory for hunters to check the open area maps, located at check stations, daily for sudden closures.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Sept. to Jan. 15, either-sex  
EXCEPT restricted to bucks only when bucks only gun season is in progress.

(b). Primitive Firearms: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Oct. for 7 days. Self-Clearing Permit required.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, and Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. mandatory deer check, Sun. self-clearing permit ~~Mandatory Deer Check~~.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: Mon. after last Sat. of Oct. to Thanksgiving Day, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. to Jan. 1.

ii. Turkey: Same as outside.

(a). Youth Lottery: Sat. before opening day of statewide season.

iii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex firearms hunts for deer and EXCEPT CLOSED to squirrel hunting during the spring season. Hunter orange or blaze pink must be worn when bucks only gun hunts for deer are in progress. Squirrel hunting with dogs allowed Mon. after Thanksgiving Day for 12 days and Jan. 2 to last day of Feb.

iv. Feral Hogs: May be taken by properly licensed hunters from beginning of Archery Season to Jan. 1. Hunters may hunt feral hogs with shotguns loaded with buckshot or slugs from Jan. 2 to the end of Feb. Hunters must also display 400 square inches of hunter orange or blaze pink and wear a "Hunter Orange" or "Blaze Pink" cap during special shotgun season for hogs.

ii. Pointe-Aux-Chenes. All nighttime activities prohibited **EXCEPT** fishing adjacent to the road side of Island Road. Possession of more than one daily limit of fish/crab/shrimp while on the WMA is prohibited. **Nighttime use of vessels to access any other areas of the WMA, other than the immediate roadside of Island Road is prohibited. Self-Clearing Permit required for deer and feral hog hunting only EXCEPT required for all activities on Point Farm Unit.** Self-clearing permits available at Grand Bayou Boat Launch and at Point Farm gate behind Montegut Middle School. **Hunting until 12 p.m. (noon) on all game EXCEPT for youth lottery deer hunts. Trapping is allowed only by written agreement with LDWF, Coastal and Non-Game Resources Division.** Parking of vehicles on levees prohibited.

Vessels/Vehicles: All boats powered by internal combustion engines having total horsepower above 25 Hp are not allowed in the Grand Bayou, Montegut and Pointe-aux-Chenes water management units. Public is permitted to travel anytime through the WMA for access purposes only, in the waterways known as Grand Bayou, Humble Canal, Little Bayou Blue, Grand Bayou Blue, St. Louis Canal, and Bayou Pointe-aux-Chenes unless authorized by LDWF. All ATVs/UTVs, motorcycles, horses and mules are prohibited. Limited Access Areas: Operation of internal combustion engines prohibited from September through January. See WMA map for specific location.

i. Feral Hogs: May be taken by properly licensed hunters from Oct. 1 **to the last day of February –Feb. 28.** In addition, hunters may hunt feral hogs with archery equipment, shotguns loaded with buckshot or slugs, or rimfire rifles no larger than .22 caliber from Feb. 16 - March 31. Hunters must also display 400 square inches of “hunter orange” or “blaze pink” and wear a “hunter orange” or “blaze pink” cap during special shotgun

season for feral hogs. All Point-aux-Chenes Property EXCEPT Point Farm Unit and Restricted Areas

ii. Deer

(a). Archery (bucks only): Oct. 1-15

(b). Archery (either-sex): Oct. 16 - Feb. 15

(c). Firearms (bucks only): Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 7 days. Nov. 24-26 and Dec. 9-15

iii. Waterfowl: Same as outside except closes at 2 pm.

iv. Small Game: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during bucks only firearms season and OPEN to squirrel hunting during the spring season, May 5-13, with or without dogs. Beagles prohibited October through December.

v. Recreational Fishing: The harvest of all fish, shrimp, crabs and crawfish is for recreational purposes only and any commercial use is prohibited. All castnet contents shall be contained and bycatch returned to the water immediately.

vi. Shrimp may be taken by the use of cast nets only. During the inside open shrimp season, 25 lbs. per boat or vehicle per day (heads on) maximum shall be permitted. Size count to conform with open season requirements. During the inside closed season, 10 lbs. per boat or vehicle per day (heads on) may be taken for bait.

vii. Oyster Harvesting PROHIBITED.

viii. Fish may be taken only by rod and reel or hand lines for recreational purposes only.

ix. Crabs may be taken only through the use of hand lines or nets; however, none are to remain set overnight. No drop net is allowed to be left unattended at

any time. A maximum of 12 drop nets may be possessed/attended per boat or vehicle. Twelve dozen crabs maximum are allowed per boat or vehicle per day.

x. Crawfish: may be harvested in unrestricted portions of the WMA and shall be limited to 100 lbs. per person per day. Gear used to catch crawfish shall not remain set overnight.

xi. Point Farm Unit (Pointe-aux-Chenes). **Self Clearing**  
**Permit required for all activities on Point Farm Unit.** An approximately 1,000-acre area inside the Pointe-aux-Chenes WMA which is generally bounded on the west by the double gates behind the Montegut Middle School and the WMA boundary, and on the north by the WMA boundary and Point Farm ridge levee, and is bounded on the east and south by the Point Farm ridge levee. The boundary of Point Farm is more accurately marked with signs. Point Farm gate will be open all Saturdays during the month of February, weather permitting. Parking in designated areas required for mourning dove hunting. No motorized vessels allowed in the drainage ditches. Except for mourning dove hunting, (provided for below) all other hunting activities closed until after the last day of youth deer hunts.

(a). Deer

(i). Youth Lottery (either-sex): **1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Oct.**  
**for 2 days, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Oct. for 2 days Oct. 7-8 & 14-15**, daily youth hunt permit required. Call the **New Iberia Field Office, Coastal and Nongame Resources Division, 337-373-0032 Lafayette**  
**Field Office, Coastal WMAs, 337-735-8667** for details.

(ii). Archery (either-sex): Oct. 16 – **Jan. 14 Dec.**

**31**

(b). Waterfowl: CLOSED



(c). Small Game: Same as outside, EXCEPT CLOSED until the day after the last youth deer hunt day and OPEN to squirrel hunting during the spring season, May 5-13, with or without dogs. Beagles prohibited October and November. Non-toxic shot only south of the dove field gate.

(d). Mourning Dove: Hunting will be permitted each day during the September split and each day of the second and third splits (AFTER the last youth deer hunt day). Shooting hours will be from 1/2 hour before sunrise until ~~sunset~~ 12:00 pm (noon), EXCEPT opening day of the first split, which will be 12:00 pm (noon) until sunset. Gates will be opened on Saturdays during the first and second segments, weather permitting, EXCEPT during waterfowl season and Youth Deer Hunt weekends. Parking will be allowed in designated areas only. Non-toxic shot only south of the dove field gate.

jj. Pomme de Terre. Area Closed: To all EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters during Youth Deer Hunt.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-15 bucks only, Oct. 16-Feb. 15 either sex.

(b). Youth: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat Mandatory Deer Check, Sun. Self-Clearing Permit.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 16 days.

(e). Primitive Firearms: Day after firearms bucks only season ends for 7 days.

ii. Turkey: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of April for 9 days.

(a). Youth Lottery: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of April for 2 days.

iii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex firearms hunt for deer and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb. On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, beagles are allowed for rabbit and dogs are allowed for squirrel 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Oct.-Oct. 31, and Mon. after Thanksgiving for 21 days, and training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1- August 31.

(a). Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days and day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb.

v. Commercial Fishing: Permitted Monday through Friday EXCEPT closed during duck season. Commercial Fishing Permits available from area supervisor, ~~Opelousas~~ Lafayette Wildlife Field Office or Spring Bayou Headquarters.

vi. Sport Fishing: Same as outside EXCEPT allowed only after 2 p.m. only during waterfowl season.

vii. Crawfish: March 15-July 31. Recreational only. 100 lbs. per person daily. No nets or traps may be left overnight.

kk. Richard K. Yancey. Area ~~closed on~~ ~~Closed: ONLY~~ that portion of the area south of Black Hawk Acme Levee Road, west of LA Hwy. 15, southward to Old River Control Structure, thence south to Sugar Mill Chute, last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days to all EXCEPT Youth and Physically Challenged Deer Hunters. The remainder of the WMA is open to all users.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Youth Lottery: 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat of Dec. except if the 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. is Christmas Day, then the hunt will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Dec. and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Jan except when the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Jan. is New Year's Day then the hunt will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Jan., either-sex.

(c). Youth and Physically Challenged: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex, ~~AREA CLOSED ONLY that portion of the area south of Black Hawk Acme Levee Road, west of LA Hwy. 15, southward to Old River Control Structure, thence south to Sugar Mill Chute, last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days to all EXCEPT Youth and Physically Challenged Deer Hunters.~~

(d). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. Mandatory Deer Check, Sun. Self-Clearing Permit.

(e). Firearms Bucks Only: Last Sat. of Dec. for 9 days.

(f). Primitive Firearms (Either-Sex): 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in December for 2 days.

ii. Turkey: Opening day of statewide season for 9 days except ~~season will open for 10 days when statewide season opens on Good Friday 16 days EXCEPT season will open for 17 days when statewide season opens Good Friday.~~

(a). Youth Lottery: Sat. before opening day of statewide season for 2 days, EXCEPT when that Sat. falls on Easter weekend, then season will open on Good Friday for 3 days.

iii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT

CLOSED during the either-sex firearms season and open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after primitive firearms bucks only season ends to last day of Feb. On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, beagles are allowed for rabbit and dogs are allowed for squirrel 1st Sat. of Oct.-Oct. 31, and Mon. after Thanksgiving for 24 12 days, and training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1- August 31.

iv. Quail: Closed.

iv v. Raccoon (Nighttime): 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days and day after primitive firearms bucks only season ends to last day of Feb.

v vi. Recreational crawfishing allowed west of the Mississippi River Levee only Mar. 15 to July 31, recreational crawfishing only. Crawfish harvested limited to 100 pounds per person per day. No traps left overnight. No motorized watercraft allowed.

vi vii. Sport Fishing and Commercial Fishing: Same as Outside EXCEPT CLOSED from 30 minutes before sunrise until 2 p.m. on: Grand Bay, Silver Lake, Lower Sunk Lake, Lac A' Sostien, Moreau Lake, and Hog Pen Lake during open waterfowl seasons.

II. Russell Sage. AREA CLOSED: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days South of I-20 only to all EXCEPT Youth and Physically Challenged Deer Hunters. North of I-20 open to all other allowable activities. Limited Access Areas: motorized vessels and vehicles prohibited Nov. 1-Jan. 31. Wham Brake: September 1-Jan. 31 all motorized vessels prohibited 2:00pm-4:00am, and all nighttime activities prohibited during open waterfowl season. Waterfowl Refuge: North of LA Highway 15 closed to all hunting, fishing, trapping and ATV use during duck season including early teal season, EXCEPT hunting allowed during Falconry

Waterfowl Season. Transporting trash or garbage on WMA roads is prohibited. All nighttime activities prohibited EXCEPT as otherwise provided. Chauvin Tract: All season dates on Chauvin Tract (US 165 North) same as outside, EXCEPT still hunt only, EXCEPT deer hunting restricted to archery only, and EXCEPT small game shotgun only. All vehicles including ATVs prohibited. Wham Brake Area: Waterfowl hunting open during either-sex deer season.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Youth and Physically Challenged: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex, south of I-20 only.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Fri. and Sat. Mandatory Deer Check, Sun. Self-Clearing Permit.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 14 days.

(e). Primitive Firearms: Monday after Firearms Bucks Only season for 7 days.

ii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT

CLOSED during either-sex firearms deer seasons, except Wham Brake area, South Bosco Tract and Pintail Alley area will remain open during either-sex firearms deer seasons, and EXCEPT spring squirrel season will be open the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days only, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting the day after the last deer firearms season (bucks only or primitive) to last day of Feb. On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, beagles are allowed for rabbit and dogs are allowed for squirrel Mon. after 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Oct.-Sun. prior to Thanksgiving, and training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1- August 31. Snipe hunting after 2 p.m. prohibited during duck season.

Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4th Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

(a). Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

iii. Raccoon (Nighttime): 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days and the day after the last deer firearms season (bucks only or primitive) to last day of Feb.

iv. Crawfish: 100 pounds per person per day limit.

mm. Sabine. Area Closed: That portion designated as the Physically Challenged Deer Hunting Area is closed to all activities the Fri. before 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Oct. for 3 days to all but Physically Challenged Deer Hunters. Remainder of area closed to all activities 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Oct. for 2 days to all but Youth Deer Hunters. Physically Challenged Deer Hunt limited to those chosen by lottery. Contact LDWF Pineville Field office for details.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(b). Youth and Physically Challenged: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, Mandatory Deer Check, Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Self-clearing Permit.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: day after primitive firearm season to day before Thanksgiving Day. First Sat. of December for 9 days.

(e). Primitive Firearms: Monday after the 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. in Oct for 7 days.

ii. Turkey

(a). General Lottery: 2<sup>nd</sup> Fri. of April for 3 days, 4<sup>th</sup> Fri. of April for 3 days.

iii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex firearms hunts for deer and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting Sat. before Christmas to last day of Feb.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): Sat. before Christmas to last day of Feb.

nn. Sabine Island. Sabine Island boundaries are Sabine River on the west, Cut-Off Bayou on the north, and Old River and Big Bayou on the south and east. Self-Clearing Permits required for hunters only. Area Closed: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days to all EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters.

i. Deer

(a). Same as Area 8 Deer Season EXCEPT still hunt only.

(b). Archery: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Sept. to Jan. 15, either-sex.

(c). Youth: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days, either-sex.

ii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Squirrel hunting with dogs allowed day after Area 8 deer season ends to last day of Feb.

iii. Raccoon (Nighttime): Day after Area 8 deer season ends to last day of Feb.

iv. Feral Hogs: May be taken by properly licensed hunters from 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Sept. to last day of Feb. Hogs may be taken with the aid of dogs Feb. 1 to last day of Feb.

oo. Salvador/Timken. Self-Clearing Permit required for all activities deer, feral hog, and all activities permitted during the Experimental Nighttime Activity Season. Permits available at Pier 90, Bayou Gauche, Bayou Segnette State Park landings, and at Airboat Adventures in Lafitte. Hunting until 12 p.m. (noon) only for all game, EXCEPT deer and Experimental Nighttime Activity Season. Vessels/Vehicles: All ATVs/UTVs, motorcycles, horses and mules prohibited. Use of mud boats powered by internal combustion engines with more than four cylinders is prohibited. Pulling boats over levees, dams or water control structures or any other activities which cause detriment to the integrity of levees, dams and water control structures is prohibited. AREA CLOSED: During the month of October to all activities EXCEPT fishing, Youth Deer Hunters and Youth Waterfowl Hunters, if the latter is provided for.

i. Deer

- (a). Archery (either-sex): Nov. 1 - Jan. 31
- (b). Youth (either-sex): Last 4 Sats. of Oct. for 2 days each EXCEPT when the last Sat. is the 31<sup>st</sup> in which case the season will be the 1<sup>st</sup> four Sats. of Oct. for 2 days each, either sex.
- (c). Firearms (either-sex): Fri. before Thanksgiving Day for 3 days.
- (d). Firearms (bucks only): Mon. before Thanksgiving Day for 28 days.



(e). Deer Primitive Firearms (either-sex): Day after  
Firearms Bucks Only for 7 days.

ii. Waterfowl: Same as outside.

iii. Small Game: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED October  
through December. Beagles allowed for rabbits Jan. 1 - Feb. 28.

iv. Feral Hogs: May be taken by properly licensed hunters  
from Oct. 1 **to the last day of February – Feb. 28**. In addition, hunters may hunt feral hogs with  
archery equipment, shotguns loaded with buckshot or slugs, or rimfire rifles no larger than .22  
caliber from Feb. 16 - March 31. Hunters must also display 400 square inches of “hunter orange”  
or “blaze pink” and wear a “hunter orange” or “blaze pink” cap during special shotgun season for  
feral hogs.

v. Recreational Fishing: The harvest of all fish, shrimp, crabs  
and crawfish are for recreational purposes only and any commercial use is prohibited.

vi. Shrimp: may be taken by the use of cast nets only. During  
the inside open shrimp season, 25 lbs. per boat per day (heads on) maximum shall be permitted.  
Size count to conform with open season requirements. During the inside closed season, 10 lbs.  
per boat per day (heads on) maximum may be taken for bait. All castnet contents shall be  
contained and bycatch returned to the water immediately.

vii. Fish: may be taken only by rod and reel or hand lines for  
recreational purposes.

viii. Crabs: may be taken only through the use of hand lines or  
nets; however, none are to remain set overnight. Twelve dozen crabs maximum are allowed per  
boat or vehicle per day.

ix.      Crawfish: may be harvested in unrestricted portions of the WMA and shall be limited to 100 lbs. per person per day. Fishing gear used to catch crawfish shall not remain set overnight.

x.      Experimental Nighttime Activity Season:

(a).      12 a.m., June 1 through official sunrise Aug. 15.

Nighttime activities LIMITED to the take of frogs and fishing with a rod and reel. All other nighttime activities prohibited. Daily limit of 50 frogs per vessel in aggregate (bull frogs/pig frogs). If engaged in frogging on or while traversing the WMA, all frogs in possession will be deemed to have been taken from the WMA. At no time may anyone possess more than one daily limit of frogs while on the water.

(b).      Size Limit: (Measured from the tip of the muzzle to the posterior end of the body between the hind legs). Bull frogs harvested must be 5 inches or larger. Pig frogs harvested must be 3 inches or larger.

(c).      Check out portion of self-clearing permit must include boat registration number under the comments section. Possession of firearms while participation in any experimental nighttime activity is prohibited.

pp.      Sandy Hollow. No hunting with any firearm south of Jackson Road, except school board tract, on days of scheduled field trials. Dates of field trials are listed on the check stations or can be obtained from the Hammond office (985-543-4777). Area Closed: North tract closed to all hunters 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Nov. for 2 days, except Youth and Physically Challenged Deer Hunters.

i.      Deer

(a). Youth/Physically Challenged: 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Nov. For 2 days, either-sex, North Tract only.

(b). Archery: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 2 days.

(d). Primitive Firearms: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 7 days, 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 7 days, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Jan. for 2 days.

ii. Turkey: Opening day of statewide season for 16 days, EXCEPT season will open for 17 days when statewide season opens Good Friday.

iii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED Fri. after Thanksgiving for 3 days and Youth/Physically Challenged hunt, and open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb.

(a). Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days. On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1- August 31.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): Day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb.

v. Mourning Dove: 1<sup>st</sup> day and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. through end of 1<sup>st</sup> split. Closed remainder of 1<sup>st</sup> split. Second and third splits are same as outside EXCEPT Youth Hunt on Northern tract during the opening day of the first segment. Hunt restricted to youths

younger than 18 years of age and supervising adult who must be 18 years of age or older. The supervising adult must maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times.

vi. Bird Dog Training: Mon. after opening day of Mourning Dove Season to the Sun. before opening of Quail Season and Feb. 1 to last day of Feb., EXCEPT restricted to that portion south of LA Hwy. 10 only and EXCEPT blank pistols only. Wild birds only (use of pen-raised birds prohibited).

vii. Bird Dog Training Area: An area has been designated to allow use of released birds for dog training purposes. Open all year EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex modern firearm hunts for deer, WMA turkey season and opening weekend of the 1<sup>st</sup> segment of dove season. Contact Hammond Office (985-543-4777) for information.

viii. Bird Dog Field Trials: Permit required from Hammond Office.

ix. Horseback Riding: Self-clearing Permit required. Organized trail rides prohibited. Riding allowed only on designated roads and trails (see WMA map). Horses and mules are specifically prohibited during turkey and gun season for deer EXCEPT as allowed for bird dog field trials. No horses and mules on green planted areas. Horse-drawn conveyances prohibited.

qq. Sherburne. The area known as the South Farm is located on the East Side of Sherburne WMA. No hunting will be allowed EXCEPT specified lottery hunts, within the levee system of the farm from the Fri. before the 1<sup>st</sup> lottery youth deer hunt on the South Farm until ~~the close of~~ the day after the last lottery duck hunt on the South Farm. Waterfowl hunting will be allowed by lottery only during the open regular duck hunting season. Hunting will be allowed in the wooded portions east of the waterfowl impoundments. Consult

the WMA maps for exact locations. No hunting allowed within the levee system of the farm. Area Closed: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days EXCEPT to Youth and Physically Challenged Deer Hunters and South Farm closed to all hunters EXCEPT youth lottery deer hunters. Physically Challenged Wheelchair Confined Deer Hunting Area: Access restricted. Check WMA map for location and call ~~Opelousas~~ Lafayette or Baton Rouge Offices for details and applications. Hunting by reservation for wheelchair confined PCHP permittees only. Same deer seasons as listed below. Physically Challenged Wheelchair Confined Waterfowl Hunting Area: Access restricted. Call ~~Opelousas~~ Lafayette or Baton Rouge Offices for further details. Hunting by reservation for wheelchair confined PCHP permittees only.

i. Deer

- (a). Archery: Oct. 1-15 bucks only, Oct. 16-Feb. 15 either sex.
- (b). Youth and Physically Challenged: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex, ALL OTHER SEASONS CLOSED. Self-Clearing Permit.
- (c). Youth Lottery: Last Sat. and Sun. of Oct., 4<sup>th</sup> Mon. of Dec., and 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. of Jan. EXCEPT no hunt on Christmas Day or Christmas Eve, either-sex. Contact ~~Opelousas Office 337-948-0255~~ Lafayette office, 337-262-2080 for details and applications.
- (d). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 2 days Mandatory Deer Check and Sun. after Thanksgiving, Self-Clearing Permit, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Fri. after Thanksgiving for ~~8~~ 10 days, Self-Clearing Permit.
- (e). Firearms Bucks Only: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 16 days.

(f). Primitive Firearms: Mon. after close of Firearms

Bucks only for 7 days.

ii. Turkey: Mon. after 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of April for 5 3 days.

(a). General Lottery: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of April for 2 days.

(b). Youth Lottery: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in April

iii. Small Game: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during

Firearms Either-Sex Deer and EXCEPT spring squirrel season will be open the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days only, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb.

(a). Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4th Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

~~On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, beagles are allowed for rabbit and dogs are allowed for squirrel 1st Sat. of Oct. Oct. 31, and Mon. after close of 2<sup>nd</sup> Firearms Either sex deer season for 9 days, EXCEPT closed last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, and training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1 – August 31.~~

(b). On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area, beagles are allowed for rabbit and dogs are allowed for squirrel 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Oct.- Oct. 31, and Mon. after close of 2<sup>nd</sup> firearms either-sex deer season for 9 days, except closed last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, and training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1 – August 31.

iv. Waterfowl, Snipe, Rail, & Gallinules: Same as outside

EXCEPT CLOSED during Firearms Either-Sex Deer and EXCEPT hunting after 2 p.m.

prohibited EXCEPT no hunting in Waterfowl Refuge. That portion of Sherburne WMA known as the South Farm restricted to Lottery hunts only. South Farm waterfowl hunting limited to one

hunt per calendar week per person. All other hunting closed on South Farm complex from the ~~last Saturday of October~~ Friday before Youth Lottery Deer Hunt until the day after the last Waterfowl hunt on the South Farm. Contact the Wildlife Field Office for details and description of "South Farm."

(a). Youth Waterfowl Lottery: Contact Opelousas Lafayette Office for details and applications.

(b). Disabled Veterans Waterfowl Lottery: Contact Opelousas Lafayette Office for details and applications.

v. Quail: CLOSED

vi. Raccoon (Nighttime): 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days and day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb.

vii. Crawfishing: March 15-July 31, Recreational crawfishing only. Crawfish harvest limited to 100 pounds per person per day. No traps or nets left overnight. No motorized water craft allowed on farm complexes. Retriever training allowed on selected portions of the WMA. Contact the Wildlife Field office for specific details.

viii. Vehicular traffic prohibited on East Atchafalaya River levee within Sherburne WMA boundaries.

ix. Rifle and Pistol Range open daily. Skeet ranges open by appointment only, contact Hunter Education Office, telephone 225-765-2931. No trespassing in restricted areas behind ranges.

Note: Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land holdings adjacent to the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area will have the same rules and regulations as Sherburne WMA. No hunting or trapping in restricted area.

x. Bird Dog Training Area: Open to bird dog training all year EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex modern firearm hunts for deer, WMA turkey season, and opening weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> segments of dove season.

rr. Soda Lake. Bicycles allowed. Vehicle parking allowed only in designated parking area on LA 173 at Twelve Mile Bayou and LA 169 adjacent to levee. All trapping and hunting prohibited EXCEPT:

i. Deer

(a). Archery Only, Oct. 1-Jan. 31, either-sex.

ii. Small Game: Portion West of Twelve Mile Bayou same as outside, falconry only and open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, Falconry only. Portion east of Twelve Mile Bayou open same as outside. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel Sat. before Christmas to end of Feb. Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs.

ss. Spring Bayou. Area Closed: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days to all EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters. No hunting allowed in Headquarters area. Only overnight campers allowed in the improved Boggy Bayou Camping area. Rules and Regulations posted at campsite. A fee is assessed for use of this campsite. Water skiing permitted only in Old River and Grand Lac.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-15 bucks only, Oct. 16-Feb. 15 either sex.

(b). Youth: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex.



(c). Firearms Either-sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day

for 3 days, ~~Mandatory Deer Check, Sat. after Thanksgiving Day for 2 days~~, Self-Clearing Permit.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Dec. for 16 days.

(e). Primitive Firearms: Mon. after close of Firearms

Bucks only for 7 days.

ii. Turkey

(a). Youth Lottery: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of April for 2 days.

iii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT small

game CLOSED during either-sex firearms hunts for deer. Waterfowl to remain open during either-sex firearms hunts for deer. Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb.

(a). Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days and day

after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb.

v. Commercial Fishing: Gill nets and trammel nets 3.5 inches

and greater permitted Monday through Friday EXCEPT slat traps and hoop nets permitted any day. The take and possession of grass carp is prohibited. Permits available from area supervisor or ~~Opelousas~~ Lafayette Wildlife Field Office. CLOSED until after 2 p.m. during waterfowl season.

vi. Sport Fishing: Same as outside EXCEPT only allowed after

2 p.m. during waterfowl season, EXCEPT during early TEAL SEASON, recreational fishing allowed after 10 a.m.

vii. Crawfish: March 15-July 31. Recreational only, 100 lbs.

per person per day.

tt. Tangipahoa Parish School Board. Self-Clearing Permits required for all activities. No horseback riding during gun season for deer or turkey. ATVs are not allowed except as otherwise specified.

i. Deer: Same as outside.

ii. Turkey: Same as outside.

iii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after primitive firearms season ends to the last day of Feb.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): Day after primitive firearms season ends to last day of Feb.

uu. Thistlethwaite. Restricted Area: Small game hunting allowed with shotgun only loaded with shot no larger than BB lead or F steel. Deer hunting allowed by archery only. Area Closed: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, EXCEPT to Youth Deer Hunters. All motorized vehicles restricted to improved roads only. All users must enter and leave through Main Gate only.

i. Deer: ~~Mandatory Deer Check for all deer seasons EXCEPT~~  
archery

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-15 bucks only, Oct. 16-Feb. 15  
either-sex.

(b). Youth Deer Hunt: Last. Sat. of Oct. for 2 days,  
either-sex.

(c). Firearms Either-Sex: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day  
for 3 days, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of Dec. for 9 days, and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of Dec. for 2 days.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: Monday after the last Either-  
Sex Firearm hunt in Dec. for 14 days.

(e). Primitive Firearms (~~Either-Sex~~): 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in  
November for 2 days and Monday after close of Firearms Bucks Only for 7 days.

ii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT  
CLOSED during either-sex firearms hunts for deer and Open to squirrel hunting during the  
spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for  
squirrel hunting February 1-28.

vv. Tunica Hills. Area Closed Sat. before opening day of statewide  
turkey season except youth turkey hunters and all weekends in April except turkey hunters. Area  
Closed: 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Nov. for 2 days to all EXCEPT Youth Deer Hunters. Camping limited to tents  
only in designated areas.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: Oct. 1-15, bucks only, Oct. 16-Jan. 31,  
either sex.

(b). Youth Hunt: 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Nov. for 2 days, either-sex.

(c). Primitive Firearms: Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for  
3 days, Fri. and Sat. Mandatory Deer Check, Sun. Self-Clearing Permit, either-sex, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of  
Dec. for 9 days, EXCEPT when there are 5 Sats. in Dec. then it will open on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Dec.,

the initial Sat. and Sun. either-sex and mandatory deer check, the remaining 7 days bucks only, self-clearing permit. Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 17 days. Fri. after Thanksgiving Day Mandatory Deer Check, remainder of season Self Clearing Permit.

ii. Turkey: Mon. after 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of April for 7 days.

(a). General Lottery: Opening day of statewide season for 2 days, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of April for 2 days, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of April for 2 days.

(b). Youth Lottery: Sat. before opening day of statewide season.

iii. Small Game and Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during Youth Deer Hunt and Primitive Firearms Deer Hunt and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs, South Tract only. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of Oct. for 7 days and Feb. 1 to last day of Feb. on South Tract only. On that portion designated as Small Game Emphasis Area (South Tract Only), training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1- August 31.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): Feb. 1 to last day of Feb. on South Tract only.

ww. Walnut Hills.

i. Deer: Same as outside, Archery Only, Either-sex.

ii. Turkey: Same as outside.

iii. Small Game: Same as outside. Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Jan to the last day of Feb. On that portion designated as

Small Game Emphasis Area, beagles are allowed for rabbit and dogs are allowed for squirrel 1st Sat. of Oct.-Feb. 28, and training of beagles for rabbit and dogs for squirrel allowed June 1-August 31.

iv. Raccoon: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 16 days and 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Jan to the Last day of Feb.

xx. West Bay. Area Closed: Next to last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days to all EXCEPT Youth and Physically Challenged Deer Hunters. Limited USE Area: Small game same as outside EXCEPT shotgun only. **Deer and deer** hunting - Archery only. See WMA map for specific location.

i. Deer

(a). Archery: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of Sept. to Jan. 15, either-sex.

(b). Youth & Physically Challenged: Next to last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days, either-sex, for physically challenged and youth hunters only.

(c). Firearms Either-sex: Last Sat. of Oct. for 2 days  
Mandatory Deer Check and Fri. after Thanksgiving Day for 3 days, Self-Clearing.

(d). Firearms Bucks Only: Mon. after close of Primitive Season to Thanksgiving Day, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of Dec. to Jan. 1.

(e). Primitive Firearms: Mon. after 1<sup>st</sup> either-sex  
firearms weekend for 7 days.

ii. Turkey:

(a). General Lottery: Opening day of statewide season for 2 days, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of April for 2 days, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of April for 2 days.

(b). Youth Lottery: Sat. before opening day of statewide season.

iii. Small Game & Waterfowl: Same as outside EXCEPT CLOSED during either-sex firearms hunts and Open to squirrel hunting during the spring season, 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May for 9 days, with or without dogs. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting day after firearms bucks only season closes to last day of Feb.

(a). Youth Squirrel Hunt: 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. of Sept. for 2 days.

iv. Raccoon (Nighttime): Day after firearms bucks only season closes to last day of Feb.

18. Other Areas

a. Camp Avondale Scout Reservation

i. Deer

(a). Firearms Either-sex: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in November for 3 days. Restricted to scout program.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115 and R.S. 56:116.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:1279 (July 1999), amended LR 26:1494 (July 2000), LR 27:1049 (July 2001), LR 28:1603 (July 2002), LR 29:1124 (July 2003), repromulgated LR 29:1522 (August 2003), amended LR 30:1495 (July 2004), LR 31:1611 (July 2005), LR 32:1251 (July 2006), LR 33:1382 (July 2007), LR 34:1429 (July 2008), LR 35:1264 (July 2009), LR 36:1566 (July 2010), LR 37:2190 (July 2011), LR 38:1732 (July 2012), LR 39:2292 (August 2013), LR 40:1540 (August 2014), LR 41:963 (May 2015), LR 42:1112 (July 2016), LR 43:1423 (July 2017), LR 44:1277 (July 2018), LR .

### **§113. General and WMA Turkey Hunting Regulations**

A. General Regulations. Only gobblers (male turkeys) may be taken. Taking of hen (female) turkeys, including bearded hens, is prohibited; still hunting only. Use of dogs, electronic calling devices, motorized decoys and live decoys is illegal. Turkeys may be hunted with shotguns, including muzzleloading shotguns, using shot not larger than #2 lead, #2 non-toxic, or BB steel shot, and approved archery equipment but by no other means. Shooting turkeys from a moving or stationary vehicle is prohibited. Shotguns capable of holding more than three shells prohibited. The running of coyote with dogs is prohibited in all turkey hunting areas during the open turkey season. No person shall hunt, trap or take turkeys by the aid of baiting or on or over any baited area. Baiting means placing, exposing, depositing or scattering of corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed so as to constitute a lure, attraction or enticement to, on or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take turkeys. A baited area is any area where corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed capable of luring, attracting or enticing turkeys is directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered. Such areas remain baited areas for 15 days following complete removal of all such corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed. Wildlife agents are authorized to close such baited areas and to place signs in the immediate vicinity designating closed zones and dates of closures. No person hunting turkeys more than 200 yards from a baited area will be in violation of the turkey baiting regulation.

#### **B. Tags**

1. Prior to hunting turkeys, all turkey hunters, regardless of age or license status, must obtain turkey tags and have them in their possession while turkey hunting. Immediately upon killing a turkey, hunters must attach a carcass tag to the turkey before it is

moved from the site of the kill and must document the kill on the turkey harvest report card. The date of kill and parish of kill must be recorded on the carcass tag. The tag must remain attached to the turkey while kept at camp or while it is transported to the domicile of the hunter or to a cold storage facility. Hunters who keep the carcass or meat at a camp must also comply with game possession tag regulations. Within 72 hours of the kill, the hunter must report the kill. Hunters may report turkeys by calling the validation phone number or using the validation website.

2. Turkey hunters purchasing licenses by phone or internet will be given an authorization number and a LDWF identification number that will serve as their license and tags until the physical license and tags arrive by mail. Turkey hunters who have purchased a license with tags, but have not yet received their physical license and tags, must immediately tag their kill with a possession tag before moving it from the site of the kill. The authorization number and LDWF identification number must be recorded on the possession tag. Hunters must retain documentation of any turkeys killed and upon receiving their physical tags and harvest report card, validate their kill as required in these regulations. The tags for turkeys killed prior to receiving the physical tags must be removed from the turkey harvest report card and discarded.

3. Tags removed from the turkey harvest report card prior to killing a turkey are no longer valid and if lost will not be replaced. Duplicate tags and turkey harvest report cards are available to replace lost report cards and attached tags. Hunters will be charged a fee for duplicate turkey harvest report cards and tags. Hunters that have killed a turkey prior to losing their remaining tag and harvest report card must remove and discard the duplicate tag to account for the original tag that was used and validated. Hunters must record any previously validated turkey on the duplicate turkey harvest report card.



C. Possession of Live Wild Turkeys. No person shall take live wild turkeys or their eggs from the wild. No person shall possess captive live wild turkeys, (*Meleagris gallopavo silvestris*, *M.g. osceola*, *M.g. intermedia*, *M.g. merriami*, *M.g. mexicana*) or their eggs, regardless of origin, without a valid game breeder license. No pen-raised turkeys from within or without the state shall be liberated (released) within the state.

D. Statewide Youth and Physically Challenged Season Regulations. Only youths 17 years of age or younger or hunters possessing a physically challenged hunter permit with wheelchair classification may hunt. Youth must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. Youths must be accompanied by one adult 18 years of age or older. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for youth younger than 16 years of age. Adults accompanying youth may not possess a firearm or bow. Youths may possess only one firearm or bow while hunting. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times, except properly licensed youths 16-17 years old and youths 12 years old or older who have successfully completed a hunter safety course may hunt without a supervising adult. Only one gobbler per day may be taken and any gobbler taken by the hunter during this special season counts towards their season bag limit of two.

E. Shooting Hours—one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

F. Turkey Hunting Area Descriptions

1. Area A

a. All of the following parishes are open:

i. Beauregard;

- ii. Bienville;
- iii. Claiborne;

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates.

- iv. East Baton Rouge;
- v. East Feliciana;
- vi. Grant;

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates;

- vii. Jackson;
- viii. LaSalle;
- ix. Lincoln;
- x. Livingston;
- xi. Natchitoches;

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates.

- ~~xii.~~ Pointe Coupee;

~~Exception: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal, and private lands within Sherburne boundaries.~~

- ~~xiii~~ xii. Rapides;

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates.

- ~~xiv~~ xiii. Sabine;
- ~~xv~~ xiv. St. Helena;
- ~~xvi~~ xv. Tangipahoa;
- ~~xvii~~ xvi. Union;
- ~~xviii~~ xvii. Vernon;

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates.

~~xix.~~ ~~West Baton Rouge;~~

~~xx xviii.~~ West Feliciana (including Raccourci Island);

~~xxi xix.~~ Winn.

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Allen—north of US 190 east of Kinder, west of US 165

south of Kinder;

ii. ~~Avoyelles—that portion bounded on the east by the Atchafalaya River, on the north by Red River to the Brouillette Community, on the west by LA 452 from Brouillette to LA 1, on the south by LA 1, eastward to Hamburg, thence by the west Atchafalaya Basin protection levee southward;~~

~~iii ii.~~ Calcasieu—north of I-10;

~~iv iii.~~ Caldwell—west of Ouachita River southward to Catahoula Parish line;

~~v iv.~~ Catahoula—south and west of the Ouachita River from the Caldwell Parish line southward to LA 8 at Harrisonburg, north and west of LA 8 from Harrisonburg to the LaSalle Parish line, also that portion lying east of LA 15;

~~vi v.~~ Evangeline—north and west of LA 115, north of LA 106 west of LA 115 to US 167, west of US 167 south to LA 10, north of LA 10 west of US 167 to LA 13, west of LA 13 south of LA 10 to Mamou and north of LA 104 west of Mamou;

~~vii vi.~~ Franklin—that portion lying east of LA 17 and east of LA 15 from its juncture with LA 17 at Winnsboro;

~~viii. Iberville—west of the Mississippi River;~~

~~Exception: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries.~~

~~ix~~ vii. Jefferson Davis—north of US 190 from junction with LA 26 to Kinder, west of US 165 and north of I-10 west from junction of US 165;

~~x~~ viii. Madison—that portion lying east of US 65 from East Carroll Parish line to US 80 and south of US 80. Also, all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;

~~xi~~ ix. Morehouse—west of US 165 from the Arkansas line to the junction of LA 140 at Bonita, north and west of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), west of LA 830-4 to US 165 at Bastrop, south of US 165 to junction of LA 3051 (Grabault Road) south of LA 3051 to junction of LA 138, west of LA 138 to junction of LA 134, north of LA 134 to the Ouachita Parish line;

~~xii~~ x. Ouachita—all west of the Ouachita River. That portion east of the Ouachita River lying north of US 80;

~~xiii~~ xi. Richland—that portion south of US 80 and east of LA 17;

~~xiv. St. Landry—that portion bounded on the west by the west Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and on the east by the Atchafalaya River;~~

~~Exception: the Indian Bayou area; see federal lands hunting schedule for Indian Bayou area dates.~~

~~xv. Upper St. Martin—all within the Atchafalaya Basin; in addition, that area bounded on the North by LA 352; on the West by LA 349, to LA 3039, to LA 347, to the Catahoula Hwy. (LA 96), to LA 679, to LA 345; and on the South by LA 3242;~~

— Exceptions: Sherburne WMA and Indian Bayou area, see WMA Turkey Hunting Schedule for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne WMA boundaries and see federal lands hunting schedule for Indian Bayou dates.

~~xvi~~ xii. Tensas—that portion west of US 65 from the Concordia Parish line to its juncture with LA 128, north of LA 128 to St. Joseph; west and north of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry; also all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River.

2. Area B

a. All of the following parishes are open:

- i. Ascension;
- ii. Bossier;
- iii. DeSoto;
- iv. Red River;
- v. St. Tammany;
- vi. Washington;
- vii. Webster.

b. Portions of the following parishes are open:

- i. Caddo—all except that portion north of I-20 from the Texas state line to I-220. west of I-220 to LA 1. west of LA 1 to Caddo Lake, south of Caddo Lake to the Texas state line;
- ii. East Carroll—east of US 65 from Arkansas state line to Madison Parish line;
- iii. Iberville—all east of the Mississippi River;

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates.

3. Area C

a. All of the following parishes are open:

- i. Concordia;
- ii. Pointe Coupee;

Exception: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries.

- iii. West Baton Rouge.

b. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Avoyelles—that portion bounded on the east by the Atchafalaya River, on the north by Red River to the Brouillette Community, on the west by LA 452 from Brouillette to LA 1, on the south by LA 1, eastward to Hamburg, thence by the west Atchafalaya Basin protection levee southward;

- ~~i~~ ii. Caldwell—all east of the Ouachita River;

~~ii~~ iii. Catahoula—all of the parish except for that portion located in area A;

~~iii~~ iv. Franklin—west of LA 17 from the Richland Parish line southward to Winnsboro, west of LA 15 southward to the Catahoula Parish line;

- v. Iberville—west of the Mississippi River

Exception: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries.

~~iv~~ vi. Iberia—east of the west Atchafalaya Basin protection levee;

vii. Richland—west of LA 17 from Franklin Parish line to Ringle Road, south of Ringle Road to Ferguson Road, south of Ferguson Road to Little Road, south of Little Road to Big Creek, east of Big Creek to Franklin Parish line;

viii. St. Landry—that portion bounded on the west by the west Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and on the east by the Atchafalaya River;

Exception: the Indian Bayou area; see federal lands hunting schedule for Indian Bayou area dates.

ix. Tensas—east and south of US 65 from Concordia Parish line to LA 128, south of LA 128 to St. Joseph, east and south of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry;

x. Upper St. Martin—all within the Atchafalaya Basin; in addition, that area bounded on the North by LA 352; on the West by LA 349, to LA 3039, to LA 347, to the Catahoula Hwy. (LA 96), to LA 679, to LA 345; and on the south by LA 3242;

Exceptions: Sherburne WMA and Indian Bayou area, see WMA Turkey Hunting Schedule for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne WMA boundaries and see federal lands hunting schedule for Indian Bayou dates.

4. Turkey season dates on wildlife management areas, national wildlife refuges, Kisatchie National Forest and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land located within areas A, B, and C may vary from the season set for the parish in which they are located. Seasons for these lands are specified in LAC 76:XIX.115.

#### G. WMA Turkey Hunting Regulations



1. WMAs with youth turkey hunts are closed to all activities except turkey hunting by authorized youth hunt participants, shooting range use, and fishing on the day(s) of the youth hunt.

2. Rules Specific to Certain WMAs

a. Sandy Hollow. No turkey hunting within 100 yards of food plots identified by two yellow paint rings around the nearest tree.

b. Sherburne. All turkeys taken must be checked at the WMA headquarters.

**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2263 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2375 (November 2002), LR 29:2512 (November 2003), LR 30:2874 (December 2004), LR 31:3167 (December 2005), LR 32:2272 (December 2006), LR 33:2469 (November 2007), LR 35:91 (January 2009), LR 35:2478 (November 2009), LR 36:2581 (November 2010), LR 37:3535 (December 2011), LR 38:2941 (November 2012), LR 40:96 (January 2014), LR 40:1554 (August 2014), LR 41:977 (May 2015), LR 42:1127 (July 2016), LR 43:1426 (July 2017), LR 44:1303 (July 2018), LR .

**§115. Turkey Hunting Areas, Seasons, and Bag Limits**

A. Daily limit is one gobbler. Season limit is two gobblers. Turkeys taken on WMAs are part of the season bag limit. Only one turkey may be taken during spring WMA lottery hunts.

B. Turkey season will open on the first Saturday in April. The area A turkey season will be 30 consecutive days in length, the area B turkey season will be 23 consecutive days in length, and the area C turkey season will be 16 consecutive days in length. Wildlife management



areas, national forests, national wildlife refuges, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land may vary from this framework. On those years when the first Saturday in April falls the day before Easter, then the season will open the Friday before the first Saturday in April.

C. Statewide youth turkey and physically challenged season on private lands shall be the weekend prior to the start of the regular turkey season. On those years when the weekend prior to the start of regular turkey seasons falls on Easter weekend, then the youth and physically challenged season will open on Good Friday.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2264 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2376 (November 2002), LR 29:2512 (November 2003), LR 30:2875 (December 2004), LR 31:3167 (December 2005), LR 32:2272 (December 2006), LR 33:2470 (November 2007), LR 35:90 (January 2009), LR 35:2481 (November 2009), LR 36:2583 (November 2010), LR 37:3541 (December 2011), LR 38:2944 (November 2012), LR 40:99 (January 2014), LR 40:1556 (August 2014), LR 41:980 (May 2015), LR 42:1129 (July 2016), LR 43:1426 (July 2017), LR 44:1306 (July 2018), LR .

#### **§117. Migratory Bird Seasons, Regulations, and Bag Limits**

##### **A. Seasons and Bag Limits**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Season Dates</b>	<b>Daily Bag Limit</b>	<b>Possessio n Limit</b>
Mourning and White Winged Doves and fully-	South Zone: <del>Sept. 1-9</del> <u>Sept. 7-Sept. 15</u>	15  (in aggregate)	45  (in aggregate)

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possessio n Limit
dressed Eurasian and Collared Doves	<u>Oct. 6 Nov. 25</u> <u>Oct. 12-Nov. 17</u> <u>Dec. 16-Jan. 14</u> <u>Dec. 19-Jan. 31</u>  North Zone: <u>Sept. 1-23</u> <u>Sept. 7-Sept. 29</u> <u>Oct. 6 Nov. 11</u> <u>Oct. 12-Oct. 17</u> <u>Dec. 16-Jan. 14</u> <u>Dec. 28-Jan. 26</u>		
Woodcock	Dec. 18-Jan. 31	3	9
Teal (Blue-winged, Green-winged and Cinnamon)	<u>Sept. 15-30</u> <u>Sept. 14-Sept. 29</u>	<u>6 4</u>	<u>18 12</u>
King and Clapper Rails	<u>Sept. 15-30</u> <u>Sept. 14-Sept. 29</u> <u>Nov. 10-Jan. 2</u> <u>Nov. 9-Jan. 1</u>	15  (in aggregate)	45  (in aggregate)

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possessio n Limit
Sora and Virginia Rails	<del>Sept. 15-30</del> <del>Sept. 14-Sept. 29</del> <del>Nov. 10-Jan. 2</del> <del>Nov. 9-Jan. 1</del>	25  (in  aggregate)	75  (in  aggregate)

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possessio n Limit
Gallinules	<del>Sept. 15-30</del> <del>Sept. 14-Sept. 29</del> <del>Nov. 10-Jan. 2</del> <del>Nov. 9-Jan. 1</del>	15	45
Snipe	Coastal Zone: <del>Nov. 2-Dec. 28</del> <del>Dec. 15-Feb. 28</del> <del>Dec. 21-Feb. 28</del> West Zone: <del>Nov. 2-Dec. 28</del> <del>Dec. 15-Feb. 28</del> <del>Dec. 21-Feb. 28</del> East Zone: <del>Nov. 2-Dec. 28</del> <del>Dec. 15-Feb. 28</del> <del>Dec. 21-Feb. 28</del>	8	24
Ducks, Coots and Mergansers	Coastal Zone:	Daily bag limit on ducks is 6 and may include no	Three times the daily bag limit.

	Nov. 3-4 (youth only)	more than 4 mallards (no	
	Nov. 10-Dec. 2	more than 2	
	Dec. 15-Jan. 20	of which may	
	West Zone:	be females),	
	Nov. 3 (youth only)	2	
	Nov. 10-Dec. 2	canvasbacks,	
	Dec. 15-Jan. 20	1 mottled	
	Jan. 26 (youth only)	duck, 1 black	
	East Zone:	duck, 3 wood	
	Nov. 10 (youth only)	ducks, 3	
	Nov. 17-Dec. 2	scaup, 2	
	Dec. 15-Jan. 27	redheads, and	
	Feb. 2 (youth only)	2 pintails 1	
	Coastal Zone:	pintail.	
	Nov. 2-3 (youth only)	Daily bag	
	Nov. 9-Dec. 8	limit on coots	
	Dec. 21-Jan. 19	is 15.	
		Daily bag	
		limit on	
		mergansers is	
		5, only 2 of	
		which may	

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possessio n Limit
	<u>West Zone:</u> <u>Nov. 9 (youth only)</u> <u>Nov. 16-Dec. 8</u> <u>Dec. 21-Jan. 26</u> <u>Feb. 1 (youth hunt)</u> <u>East Zone:</u> <u>Nov. 16 (youth only)</u> <u>Nov. 23-Dec. 8</u> <u>Dec. 14-Jan. 26</u> <u>Feb. 1 (youth only)</u>	be hooded mergansers. Merganser limits are in addition to the daily bag limit for ducks.	
Light Geese (Snow, Blue, and Ross') and White-Fronted Geese	<u>North Zone:</u> <u>Nov. 3-Dec. 2</u> <u>Dec. 15-Feb. 10</u> <u>South Zone:</u> <u>Nov. 3-Dec. 2</u> <u>Dec. 15-Feb. 10</u> <u>North Zone:</u>	Daily bag limit on Light Geese (snow, blue, and ross') is 20.	No possession limit on Light Geese (snow,

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possessio n Limit
	<u>Nov. 2-Dec. 8</u> <u>Dec. 21-Feb. 9</u> <u>South Zone:</u> <u>Nov. 2-Dec. 8</u> <u>Dec. 21-Feb. 9</u>	Daily bag limit on White- Fronted Geese is 2.	blue, and ross') Possession limit on White- Fronted Geese is 6.
Canada Geese	<u>North Zone:</u> <u>Nov. 3-Dec. 2</u> <u>Dec. 15-Jan. 31</u> <u>South Zone:</u> <u>Nov. 3-Dec. 2</u> <u>Dec. 15-Jan. 31</u> <u>North Zone:</u> <u>Nov. 2-Dec. 8</u> <u>Dec. 21-Jan. 31</u> <u>South Zone:</u> <u>Nov. 2-Dec. 8</u> <u>Dec. 21-Jan. 31</u>	1	3

B. Conservation Order for Light Geese Seasons and Bag Limits

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Light Geese (Snow, Blue, and Ross')	<u>North Zone:</u> <u>Dec. 3-14</u> <u>Feb. 11-Mar. 10</u> <u>South Zone:</u> <u>Dec. 3-14</u> <u>Feb. 11-Mar. 10</u> <u>North Zone:</u> <u>Dec. 9-Dec. 13</u> <u>Feb. 10-Mar. 15</u> <u>South Zone:</u> <u>Dec. 9-Dec. 13</u> <u>Feb. 10-Mar. 15</u>	No daily bag limit.	No possession limit.

C. Extended Falconry Seasons and Bag Limits

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit
Mourning and White Winged Doves and fully-dressed Eurasian and Collared Doves	Sept. 15-Oct. 1	Falconry daily bag and possession limit for all permitted migratory game birds must not exceed 3 and 9 birds, respectively, singly or in aggregate, during the extended falconry seasons and regular hunting seasons.
Woodcock	<u>Nov. 2-Jan. 31</u> <u>Nov. 4-Jan. 31</u>	



Rails and Gallinule	Nov. 2-Jan. 31 Nov. 4-Jan. 31	
Ducks	Nov. 2-Jan. 31 Nov. 4-Jan. 31	

#### D. Dove Hunting Regulations

1. Shooting hours one-half hour before sunrise to sunset except on opening day of the first split on wildlife management areas and on fields leased through the LDWF experimental dove field leasing program, where hunting will be from 12 p.m. to sunset, except for Elbow Slough Wildlife Management Area which will be open one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

2. There is no bag limit on Eurasian collared-doves or Ringed Turtle-doves provided that a fully feathered wing and head remain attached to the carcass of the bird. Fully dressed Eurasian collared-doves and ringed turtle doves (those without a fully feathered wing and head naturally attached to the carcass) shall be included in the aggregate bag.

3. The following boundary divides the dove season zones: beginning at the Texas-Louisiana order on LA Hwy. 12; thence east along LA Hwy 12 to its intersection with U.S. Hwy 190; thence east along U.S. Hwy 190 to its intersection with I-12; thence east along I-12 to its intersection with I-10; then east along I-10 to the Mississippi state line.

E. Snipe Hunting Regulations. Shooting hours one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except at the Spanish Lake recreation area in Iberia Parish where shooting hours, including the conservation end at 2 p.m.

F. Conservation Order for light geese. Only snow, blue, and Ross' geese may be taken under the terms of the conservation order. Electronic calls and unplugged shotguns allowed. No daily bag or possession limit. Shooting hours one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.

G. Canada Goose Season Closure. The Canada goose season will be open statewide except for a portion of southwest Louisiana described as follows: beginning at the Texas State Line, proceeding east along LA Hwy. 82 to the Calcasieu Ship Channel, then north along the Calcasieu Ship Channel to its junction with the Intracoastal Canal, then east along the Intracoastal Canal to its juncture with LA Hwy. 82, then south along LA Hwy. 82 to its juncture with Parish Road 3147, then south and east along Parish Road 3147 to Freshwater Bayou Canal, then south to the Gulf of Mexico, then west along the shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico to the Texas State Line, then north to the point of beginning at LA Hwy. 82. Open waters of Lake Arthur and the Mermentau River, from the Hwy 14 bridge southward, will also be closed.

H. Statewide Youth Waterfowl Season Regulations. Only youths 17 years of age or younger may hunt. Youth must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. Youths must be accompanied by one adult 18 years of age or older. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for youth younger than 16 years of age. **Adults accompanying youth may not possess a firearm.** Youths may possess only one firearm while hunting. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times.

**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 42:1130 (July 2016), amended LR 43:1427 (July 2017), LR 44:1306 (July 2018), LR :

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the commission to promulgate and effectuate this Notice of Intent and the final Rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the Fiscal and Economic Impact Statement, the filing of the Notice of Intent and final Rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

#### **Family Impact Statement**

In accordance with Act 1183 of 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent. This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

#### **Poverty Impact Statement**

The proposed rulemaking will have no impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973.

#### **Provider Impact Statement**

This Rule has no known impact on providers as described in HCR 170 of 2014.

#### **Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed Rule until Thursday, March 7, 2019 to Tommy Tuma, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P. O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 or via e-mail to [ttuma@wlf.la.gov](mailto:ttuma@wlf.la.gov).

Robert J. Samanie, III

Chairman



## Notice of Intent – Oyster Leasing Policies and Procedures

Cole Garrett | Wildlife and Fisheries Commission | January 8, 2019

### Goals of the Notice of Intent

- Update the application process for leases and renewals
- Establish a protocol to designate access channels on subservient leases
- Establish rules governing joint leasing of water bottoms (Dual Claim Lease)
- Provide for preferential rights and rules governing lifting the moratorium
- Provide an option for LDWF desktop examination in lieu of private survey
- Incorporate long standing policies of the oyster lease section into rule
- Generally clean up and organize the rules





## Freshwater Diversions and Avenal Lawsuit

- In 1989, in anticipation of the Caernarvon Freshwater Diversion into Breton Sound, LDWF introduced indemnification language into its oyster leases for coastal restoration.
- In 1990, LDWF implemented the Caernarvon Oyster Transfer relay program to allow leaseholders in the impact area to relocate their leases to designated areas outside of the zone. Some participated, others chose not to.
- Caernarvon became operational in September of 1991.
- Plaintiffs filed a class action law suit in March of 1994, asserting that their oyster leases were destroyed or damaged by freshwater intrusion due to Caernarvon.
- A jury trial returned a verdict of over \$1B judgment against the state for damage to 63,000 leased acres; a value of \$21,345.00 per acre.
- The Louisiana Supreme Court later ruled that of the 204 leases in the class action, 192 of them were deemed to have valid indemnification clauses in the leases and not entitled to compensation, and the remaining ones had prescribed by the two year statute of limitations for damages, and had not been "taken" by the state.
- The trial court ruling was enough for DNR to request the WLF Commission to place a moratorium on leasing so as to limit liability exposure for future coastal restoration projects.



## Oyster Lease Moratorium and Act 808

### Moratorium

- As a result of Avenal, and upon the request of DNR, the oyster lease moratorium was put into place by Resolution of the WLF Commission in March of 2002. It has been in place ever since.
- The moratorium allowed for renewals to be issued by the department and for relocation of leases under the Oyster Lease Acquisition and Compensation Program
- The moratorium did not allow for "contouring" of leases (expansion during renewal to take up eroded water bottom), nor the continuation of the auction established to lease acreage terminated for default in payment of rent.
- Applications and fees were held pending a resolution to the moratorium unless otherwise relinquished.
- Partial lifting of the moratorium occurred in 2007 when the WFC allowed for processing of pending applications.

### Act 808

- In the 2008 Regular Legislative Session, Act 808 passed initiating a process by which to lift the moratorium on oyster leasing.
- It mandated that rules governing the moratorium lifting be developed in conjunction with a special committee composed of LDWF, DNR, Oyster Task Force, Louisiana Landowners Assoc., LA Oil and Gas Assoc., and LA Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Assoc.
- Provided that prior to lifting the moratorium, LDWF should examine leases that were not renewed since 1996 due to DNR's recommendation that their leases would be in an impact area of a coastal restoration project.



## Oyster Lease Moratorium and Act 808

### Act 808 Committee Recommendations

- Committee delivered recommendations in 2009
- Most could be implemented by rule:
  - Biological assessments in conjunction with CUP applications (DNR & DWF)
  - 90-day landowner contest period for new leases (WFC & SLO)
  - 90-day lease application withdrawal period (WFC)
  - Rent-delinquent leases become new leases (WFC)
  - 500' expansion of existing leases (WFC)
  - Lottery system for new leases, after lifting (WFC)
- Two recommendations require legislation:
  - Liability exemption for pre-existing oil and gas activity ("first come, first served")
  - Reevaluation of State ownership of leased water bottoms 3 years before lease renewal
- All recommendations should be enacted before moratorium is lifted
- All were assigned equal weight by the committee
- All members approved all recommendations
- Recommendations as a whole are the result of compromise



## Legislative Action



## **Act 595 of the 2016 Legislative Session (HB 902)**

### **Oyster Task Force Initiative**

- Legislative instruments were introduced every year 2011-2015 to implement the recommendations of the Act 808 Committee – none succeeded
- Oyster Task Force created a Moratorium Lifting Subcommittee
  - To develop proposed legislation, starting from scratch
  - Met regularly throughout 2015 and into 2016
  - Invited oil and gas, landowner, and other stakeholders to advise the OTF committee – Only OTF members could vote
  - Invited DWF, DNR, CPRA, DOJ, SLO to advise the OTF committee – Most attended
  - Developed the legislation that became HB 902
    - Oil and gas and landowner representatives have been involved in discussions once the bill was filed
    - Resulting bill was one of compromise and generally agreed upon by all stakeholders



## **Act 595 of the 2016 Legislative Session (HB 902)**

### **Significant Aspects – Subservience to Existing Oil & Gas Activities**

- Protects Oil & Gas Permittees for Preexisting Activities and Structures
  - First come, first served for permitted activities
  - Added protection for unpermitted activities that preexist new oyster leases (prior to 1980 when the CUP process began)
  - Subservience applies only to those oyster leases applied for after July 1, 2017 (not existing leases, Phase 0 or Phase 1 leases)
    - Subservience only extends those activities and areas designated in the permit, or 75' from centerline for pipelines and 250' from perimeter of well, shell pad, or facility.
  - Establishes ability for oil & gas to designate single access channels to cross subservient oyster leases
    - 50' from center of designated access channel
    - 80' spoil area on one side of the channel
  - Precludes new leases within 75' of centerline of pipelines on purchased right of way





## Act 595 of the 2016 Legislative Session (HB 902)

### Significant Aspects – Application Processes

- No requirement to reevaluate State claim to water bottoms before renewal
  - Instead, requires:
    - Public notice of all new leases (90 days)
    - SLO determination of State claim to water bottoms
    - Opportunity to object
  - Allows withdrawal of lease application upon protest or determination State does not claim water bottoms
  - Adjudication of claims to water bottoms is available anytime
- Requires CPRA review and authorizes buffer zones along coast
  - Purpose is to protect sensitive and eroding coastline
  - New leases, expansions and *renewals* would be evaluated in buffer zones
    - Pending MOU between LDWF and CPRA will govern implementation
      - *50' buffer from existing coastline for new leases and expansions*
      - *Typically no buffer required for existing oyster leases*
      - *Evaluation of leases in direct impact areas of Integrated Coastal Protection Projects where construction is imminent*



## Act 595 of the 2016 Legislative Session (HB 902)

### Significant Aspects – Preferential Phases of Lifting the Moratorium

#### Phase 0 – Processing Pre-Moratorium Lease Application Backlog

- +/- 40 lease applications pending
- None processed since 7/1/2016 because of new application procedures
- NOT subject to subordination – applied for prior to 7/1/16

#### Phase 1 – Right of First Refusal for Non-Renewed Avenal Leases

- 274 leases – only available to the lessee of record
- Notice provided via certified letter and 60-day publication on website

#### Phase 2 – Incorporation of Adjacent Water Bottoms for Existing Leases

- 500' expansion between leases or towards eroded land
- New acreage will be subordinate to preexisting oil & gas operations

#### Phase 3 – Right of First Refusal for Lessees under Private Lease

- Only available to those private leases executed and recorded prior to 2/1/16
- Recognized as valid up to this point, but not after for purposes of harvest

#### Phase 4 – 1<sup>st</sup> Lottery Phase

- Random selection to determine appointment priority, 1 lottery entry per applicant

#### Phase 5 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Lottery Phase (Optional)

- Same provisions as 1<sup>st</sup> Lottery Phase – Secretary's discretion



## Act 570 of the 2016 Legislative Session (HB 1130)

### Purpose – To address the dual-claimed lands problem

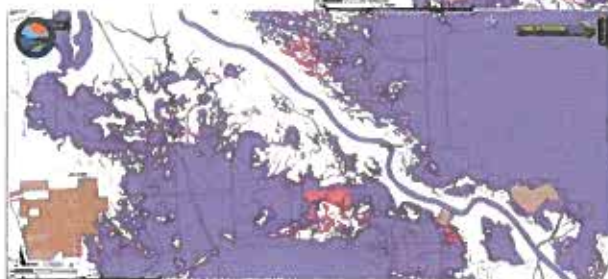
- Louisiana's coastal area is rapidly eroding, subsiding, and otherwise disappearing
- Private persons hold record title to vast majority of coastal area
- Land that erodes into navigable water bodies becomes a public thing belonging to the State (CC 450, *Miami Corp.*)
- Private record owners and the State both claim ownership of the same water bottoms
- In the vacuum created by LDWF moratorium on oyster leases, private leases have been issued
- Without judicial resolution, true ownership is in dispute
- State (LDWF) receives the benefit of two presumptions
  1. Harvest of oysters off unleased water bottoms is prohibited and all oysters in possession are presumed to be from state waters (56:424)
  2. Once a reasonable investigation of ownership is complete and a determination made that the State owns the water bottom, no claim by any person shall be valid until adjudicated by a court (AG Op. 08-0290)



St. Bernard Parish



Plaquemines Parish



Terrebonne/Lafourche



## **Act 570 of the 2016 Legislative Session (HB 1130)**

### **Purpose – To reduce litigation arising from dual claim conflicts**

- LDWF and private claimants can agree to grant State leases on dual claimed water bottoms
  - Strictly voluntary
  - All parties reserve their rights and claims
- Litigation is unnecessary to preserve claims
- LDWF receives the full \$3/acre/year as required by statute
- Reduces the litigation that raising the moratorium under Act 570 alone would engender
- HB 1130 and HB 902 were negotiated and tied together – the effectiveness of each instrument conditioned on the passage of the other



## **Act 570 of the 2016 Legislative Session (HB 1130)**

### **Purpose – Legitimize oyster harvest from private leases on state claimed water bottoms**

- Oyster harvest from State-claimed water bottoms is authorized only on State issued oyster leases
- Under prior law, LDWF could not recognize private leases on State water bottoms
- Oysters fished from private leases on State water bottoms were considered contraband and were subject to seizure and dumping
- Establishes a presumption of validity for private leases on "dual claimed" water bottoms that were executed and properly recorded by 2/1/16
- Provides a mechanism for harvest of private oyster leases on state claimed water bottoms until Phase 3 of the moratorium lifting is complete



# Proposed Rule



## Goals of the Notice of Intent

- Update the application process for leases and renewals
  - make it consistent with the new law
    - public notice, protest periods, CPRA review for buffer zones, etc.
- Establish a protocol to designate access channels on subservient leases
- Establish rules governing joint leasing of water bottoms (Dual Claim Lease)
- Provide for preferential rights and rules governing lifting the moratorium
- Provide an option for LDWF desktop examination in lieu of private survey
- Incorporate long standing policies of the oyster lease section into rule
- Generally clean up and organize the rules



## **Establishes New Procedure for Leases**

### **Applications for New Leases – Subject to Preexisting CUP Activity**

- Post notice of application for lease on LDWF website for 90 days
- Concurrently LDWF submits applications to the State Lands Office and CPRA for determinations regarding ownership and buffer zones
  - Applicant will have 30 days to amend application if needed
- Concurrently, private claimants may protest ownership determination of the water bottom in writing
  - SLO Administrator has 90 days to evaluate the claim and make a preliminary determination
  - SLO Administrator may evaluate any additional information and make a final determination of ownership no later than 180 days from protest
- Applicant may withdraw application within 120 days of registration or within 30 days of determination of ownership
- New Leases will not be issued in the following instances:
  - Within 75' of the centerline of a purchased pipeline right of way
  - Within a designated public oyster seed ground or reservation
  - Within the boundaries of a Wildlife Management Area
  - Within 50' of the outer boundary of a USACE designated navigable channel



## **Modifies Lease Renewals**

### **Applications for Renewals**

- First right of renewal for lessees of record, provided that the lease is capable of supporting oyster populations – 15 year successive terms
- Must be a bona fide resident, full age of majority and appear in person
- Leases or portions of leases will not be renewed if the applicant fails to meet the residency requirements, or when the water bottom is:
  - Determined by LDWF to be incapable of supporting oyster populations
  - Within a designated public oyster seed ground or reservation (Sec. discretion)
  - Within the boundaries of a Wildlife Management Area (Sec. discretion)
  - Within an area that CPRA determines a buffer zone is necessary to protect sensitive or eroding lands (Rare)
- In the event that a lease is not renewed, lessees have until July 1 to remove improvements – Secretary may extend by 90 days for good cause
- "Take Ups", expansions or lease reconfigurations are treated as new lease applications and will not be processed as a renewal



## Subordination and Designation of Access Channels

**New oyster leases are subordinate to preexisting oil & gas permits/activity**

- Does not apply to existing leases, Phase 0 or Phase 1 Leases
- Applies to new oyster leases
  1. where a permit application for such activity predates the oyster lease application
  2. where the structure was constructed prior to 1980
  3. Where a single access route is designated to cross an oyster lease to perform work on such a structure
- When an access channel to cross subservient oyster leases is designated:
  - 50' from center of designated access channel
  - 80' spoil area on one side of the channel
  - 1. If only one access route is permitted, then it is the sole route
  - 2. If multiple, then the permittee designates one to LDWF
  - 3. If the structure predates CUP permits, then the permittee submits a proposed access route to LDWF in writing
    - Oyster lease holder has 30 days to object and show good cause
    - If objection is timely made, the parties have 30 days to designate a mutually agreeable access route
    - Should the parties fail to do so, the Secretary will designate one



## Desktop Examination, Survey Standards and Data

### LDWF Desktop Examination

- Provides that lease applicants may request a "Desktop Examination" in lieu of providing their own licensed survey plat
- Establishes a fee of \$260 – based on the employee-hours needed to perform such a task
- At the option of the applicant, not required

### Survey Standards

- All surveys must utilize NAIP or imagery with resolution of 1 meter

### GIS Data

- Establishes procedure for public to obtain oyster lease GIS data and sets associated fees
  - \$5 per lease
  - \$50 per USGS 24K Section
  - \$200 for the entire dataset



## Joint Leasing – Dual Claimed Water Bottoms

### Dual Claim Agreement

- At anytime LDWF may enter into a Dual Claim Agreement with a private claimant for the leasing of dual claim water bottoms for oyster cultivation
- Requires consultation with the State Lands Office
- Cannot contain any restrictions on the applicant more burdensome than traditional state-issued oyster leases
- Shall remain in effect:
  - For the entire term and renewal of any state-issued lease is issued thereon
  - Until ownership of the dual claim water bottoms is finally adjudicated
  - Until such time that either party withdraws from the agreement when no state-issued lease is burdening the water bottom

### Dual Claim Lease

- An oyster lease issued by LDWF on dual claim water bottom subject to a “Dual Claim Agreement”
  - Private claimant holds record title
  - State claims ownership as a sovereign navigable water bottom
  - Title has not been adjudicated to either party
  - No effect on ownership of water bottoms or underlying minerals



## Joint Leasing – Continued

- Executed on a LDWF oyster lease form and is subject to the same rules and regulations that apply to a traditional state-issued oyster lease
  - Contains the stipulation that the existence or term of the lease does not affect ownership of the water bottom or mineral interests
- LDWF shall receive the same rental payment as is required for a traditional state-issued lease – \$3/acre/year
- A private claimant may negotiate a private rental payment as follows:
  1. State-issued oyster leases in effect as of 7/1/16 are not subject to private rental payment
  2. Any private rental payment must be stipulated in the Dual Claim Agreement
  3. Private rental payment may not exceed the \$3/acre/year received by LDWF
  4. Private rental payments shall be paid directly to the private claimant
  5. Consequences of non-payments cannot be harsher than LDWFs
- Dual Claim Lease issued pursuant to a Dual Claim Agreement supersedes any existing leases issued by the private claimant
- An oyster lease applicant may refuse a Dual Claim Lease and request LDWF issue a traditional state-issued oyster lease – Sec. discretion
  - At lessees risk – Will hold LDWF harmless for any claims of ownership





## Rules Lifting the Oyster Lease Moratorium

### Phase 0 – Processing Pre-Moratorium Lease Application Backlog

- +/- 40 lease applications pending
- None processed since 7/1/2016 because of new application procedures
- NOT subject to subordination – applied for prior to 7/1/16
- May be issued as Dual Claim Leases

### Phase 1 – Right of First Refusal for Non-Renewed Avenal Leases

- 274 leases – only available to the lessee of record
- Notice provided via certified letter and 60-day publication on website
- Only lessee of record is eligible to apply

### Phase 2 – Incorporation of Adjacent Water Bottoms for Existing Leases

- 500' expansion between leases or towards eroded land
- 180-day application period
- New acreage will be subordinate to preexisting oil & gas operations

### Phase 3 – Right of First Refusal for Lessees under Private Lease

- Only available to those private leases executed and recorded prior to 2/1/16
- 60-day application period and notice by posting on LDWF website
- Recognized as valid up to this point, but not after for purposes of harvest

### Phase 4 – 1<sup>st</sup> Lottery Phase

- Random selection to determine appointment priority, 1 lottery entry per applicant
- 60-day notice by publication on LDWF website

### Phase 5 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Lottery Phase (Optional)



## Incorporation of Long-Standing Policies

### No leases in WMAs or Public Oyster Seed Grounds

- These areas are set aside for use of the general public – granting exclusive use of the water bottom to an individual is not consistent with the purpose

### Heritability

- Applications are heritable contingent upon proof of death and heirship
- 180 days from death of applicant to appoint a representative
- Leases will not be renewed if inherited by non-resident

### Mandate of Compact Lease Configurations

- Applications may not connect two larger otherwise non-contiguous water bottoms by applying for a cut, bayou, or canal

### Splitting of Leases

- No lease may be split except by CPRA acquisition or judicial decree
- Alternative lease numbers will be issued, but not treated as a new lease

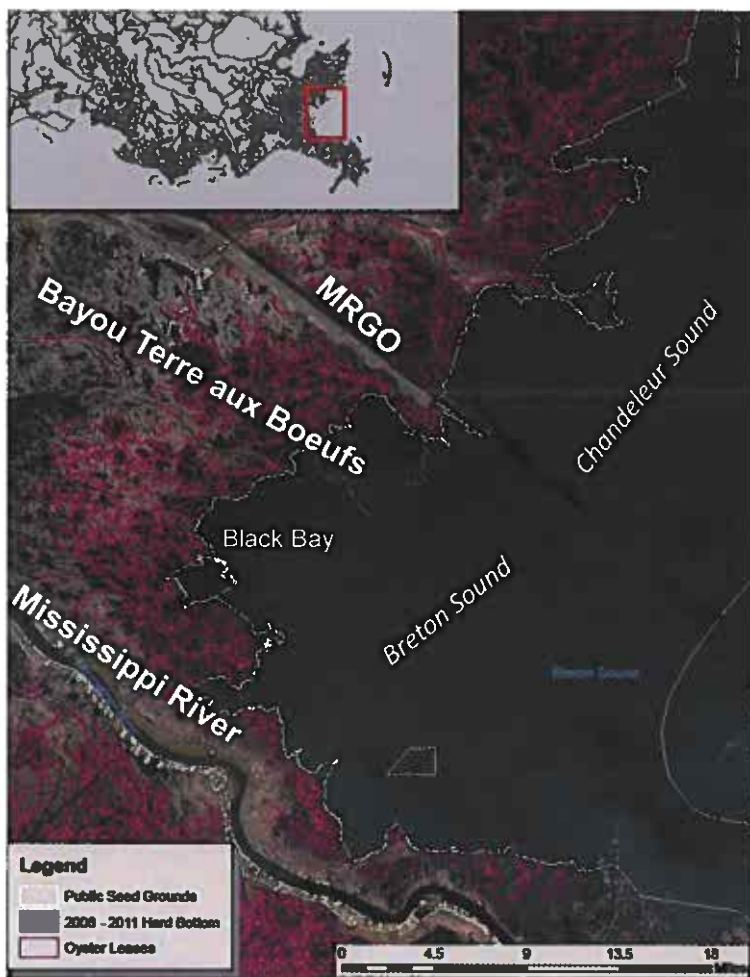
### Default in Rental Payments

- Rent due on Jan. 1 – Allowance for late payment (60 days)
- Notice of delinquency published on Feb. 1
- 10% late penalty for payment after Feb. 1; automatic cancellation





April 2, 2007

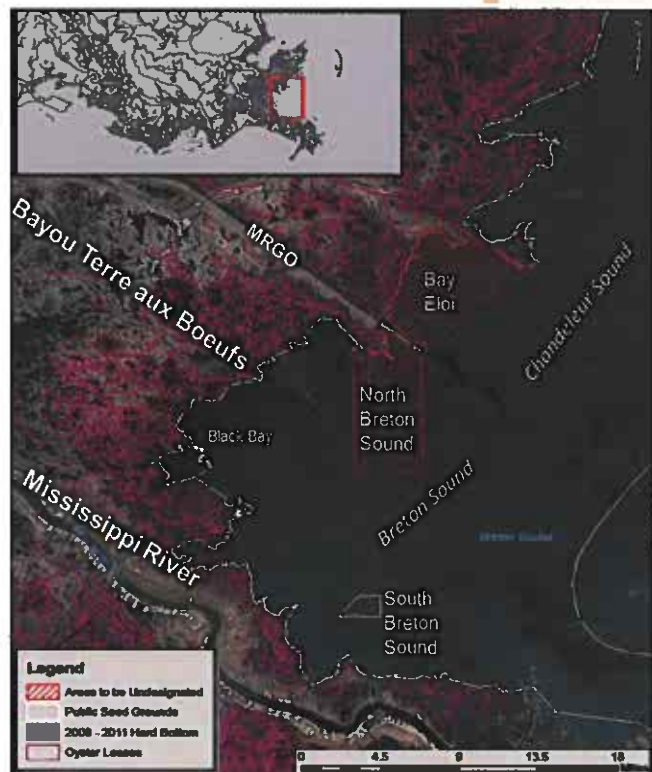


- General area south of Bayou Terre aux Boeufs
- Oyster population in decline since 2001
- Combination of environmental factors
- Currently no room for lease expansion into suitable areas (\*\*moratorium\*\*)



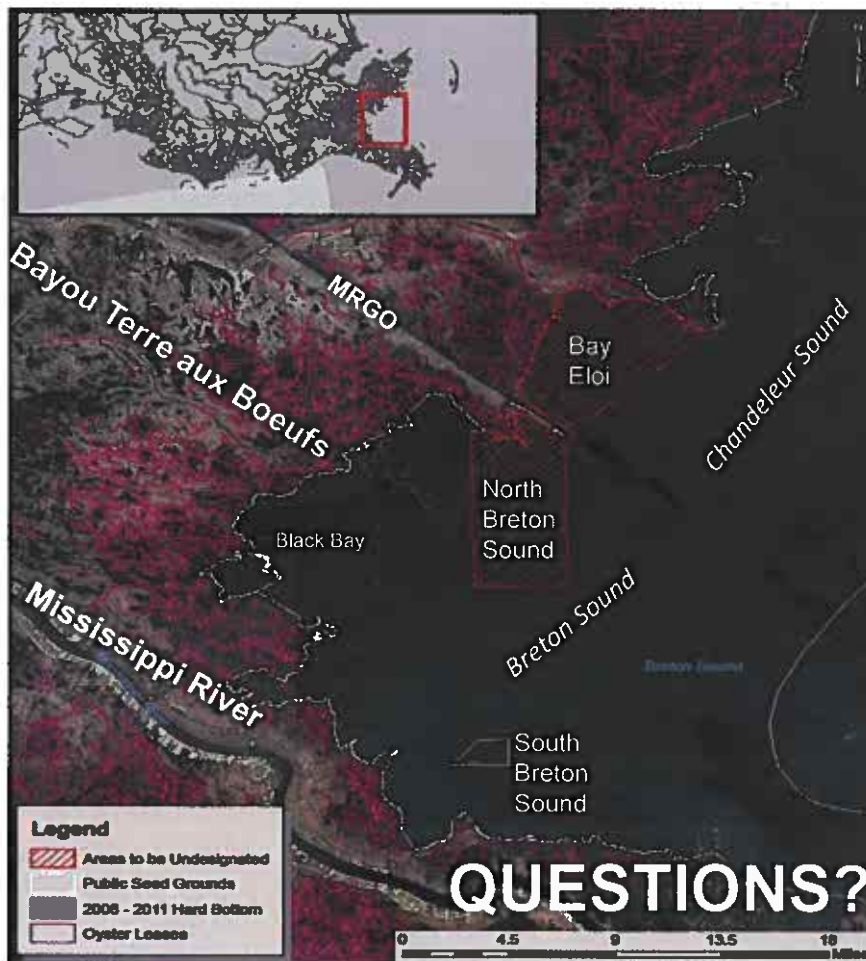
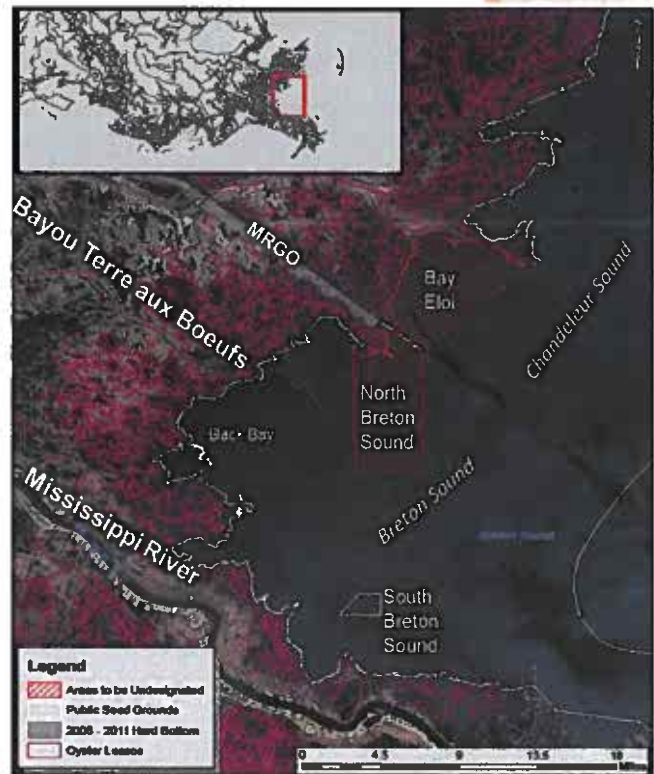
## Option to Assist Oyster Industry

- Un-designate a portion of current public oyster seed grounds east of the MS River
  - Approximately 40,248 acres
  - 4% of current POSG area east of the MS River
  - Recommended by OTF in December 2017.



# Proposed Areas to be Undesignated

- Suitable salinities for oyster production, with proper investment of resources
- State has no plans or funding for development of this area of the public oyster seed grounds



**QUESTIONS?**





## **Calcasieu Lake Oyster Harvest Report**

George Melancon | Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission | January 8, 2019

## **2018-2019 Oyster Harvest Season**

- **West Cove and East Side seasons opened on October 29, 2018**
- **Hand tongs only**
- **Estimated Sacks of market oysters available as of July 2018:**
  - **East Side- 18,390**
  - **West Cove- 144,101**
- **Estimated Harvest (updated 12/26)**
  - **East Side- 1,650 (9% of available stock)**
  - **West Cove- 2,716 (2% of available stock)**
- **Declaration of Emergency to close the East Side to harvest on 12/31/18**



# 2018-2019 Oyster Harvest Season

- **Primary areas of harvest:**

- East Side- 2015 Lambert's cultch plant and Chenier Reef
- West Cove- 2015 West Cove cultch plant

- **Estimated 13 boats/day harvest effort**

- **LDWF Enforcement- 10 cases of illegal dredging**

- All on East Side

